



The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos*.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

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News of the Week.

NEVER was there a press of business more important or more various than that which will fall with accumulated weight upon Lord PALMERSTON next week. There is the EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH to be provided with a state reception of cordial welcome, and a route for avoiding any unpleasant demonstrations that might salute him by the way. There is the Congress at Vienna, whether a DROUILLER DE L'HUYS has gone to make up for the deficient representation of the Western Powers, where Turkey shows so strong a disposition to call even her allies in question, and where Russia is so gratuitously obstinate. There is the Crimea with the disclosures of the armistice, during which we have discovered that the Russians and their fortifications are in prime condition. With a war on hand threatening to increase to five-fold its present dimensions, there is the War-Office bare of its chief, who lingers on the couch of gouty sickness. There is the Budget to get ready, and the newly-announced Loan to arrange with "the City." And there is the House of Commons about to reassemble with all the kickings of all the factions, new combinations threatened against the Minister who was actually nominated by the majority of the House, and new difficulties in getting through public business without any Easter recess to break the strain. Here, certainly, is enough of business for one man!

We do not know how Ministers have been employing the recess to strengthen themselves against the renewed labours of the week; for profession and fact are as little in harmony as the profession and fact of our great public. Then there is some mystery at head-quarters which we have yet to penetrate. The people of this country professing to be Christians kept Good Friday as a gay holiday, a first burst of spring festivity; while the Easter Sunday, which should be the greatest festival of the Church, fell comparatively flat upon British Christians. If a people professing pure Christianity, and comporting itself with so little reference to that creed, is governed by a Ministry whose acts are equally inconsistent with its professions, we may indeed anticipate some startling eccentricities in Vienna, in the Crimea, and perhaps in other scenes. There are reports to which at present we attach little heed, of all sorts of compromises. The only evidence that we can

describ in support of these rumours lies in the excessively belligerent language ascribed to Ministers and their underlings.

We must confess, however, that appearances in the north-east of Europe as well as in the south-east, run strongly against peace. The final instructions are still withheld from the Russian plenipotentiaries. Now it is true that the real decision of peace lay with the Emperor ALEXANDER. There are certain essentials to be conceded without which there can be no guarantee for peace; and the only question was, whether in general terms he was prepared to make those essential concessions. Whence, then, these tedious deliberations? Evidently he has not yet made up his mind; and the nature of his position is such, that if he should continue in the same mood he will probably at the last moment send hasty instructions telling the Plenipotentiaries to persevere in a course that cannot terminate in peace.

In the meanwhile the instructions given by Turkey to her ambassador have been published. The document, indeed, has not been formally authenticated, but there is no reason to doubt its authenticity. In these instructions the Turkish Ambassador is told to guard the sovereignty and independence of the Porte against any encroachments through the administration of the Principalities, the regulation of the Dardanelles, or the security given for the Christian subjects. The Porte also demands that any project for the settlement of the Four Points shall be submitted to it, and discussed with the Allies before it is offered to the acceptance of Russia; and in all cases the Ambassador is to refer to his own Government. Turkey, therefore, gives no *carte blanche* to Congress, and in some respects claims a place of consideration before Russia—all very properly; but it is very likely to exasperate the son of that Czar who was so excessively irritated because the proposition of the Allied Powers in the first instance was submitted to the Porte simultaneously with himself.

We can then have no expectation that Russia will amend her position towards the other powers; nor especially has the position of any of those powers altered. Prussia is still coqueting through diplomatic missions to Paris and by correspondence. Saxony has through its ministers been throwing out a hint to the German Governments, that they should exercise independence of Austria in the control and use of the federal army; a new ruse by the ally of Prussia for securing Prussian

and therefore Russian, objects. Bavaria is said to have proposed to Austria that, satisfied with the concessions on the two first points, which concern her, she should proceed no further with the Western Powers, but be neutral as to the rest. And Austria, it has been reported, signified her acquiescence in that proposal. But the report stands as absolutely without a shadow of evidence for its basis as any that have gone before.

As to the French Government, it is contemplating some new move, but as yet has given us no sign what that move is to be. The Emperor is preparing for his visit to this country in imperial magnificence, which is in itself an important state proceeding. He has also permitted the publication in the *Moniteur* of a Memoir, explaining the progress of the War down to the present point. Ostensibly, this Memoir has the appearance of a simple narrative, admitting many things, such as the part which the Emperor took in instructing his own generals for their course first of all in Turkey, and subsequently in the Crimea; the change of plans which took place from time to time, and the comparative failure of the expedition. The Report, however, is almost as significant in its omissions as in its direct statements; and the true use to be made of it—the force and meaning of the whole representation and course of action in which it forms only a fragmentary part—will not be understood until we have the diplomatic sequel already promised, and the course of action with which the Emperor may design to follow it up. It is recorded for a purpose; and we shall understand the purpose when we know its author's mind.

It is possible that the attention absorbed by the Imperial visit, the demand that it will make on the time of the officers of State, and the generally distracted condition of the public mind, may stave off some of the questions that would otherwise encounter Ministers at the reopening of Parliament. Mr. BOUVERIE, who has been re-elected for Kilmarnock, after his appointment as Vice-President of the Board of Trade, might be asked to explain how it comes that, if, as he showed in the Scotch town, he so thoroughly understands the reasons for the bad working of our public departments, he should consent to take a place under Government without a thorough pulling down and reconstruction of the whole system? Lord PALMERSTON pointed out that the system had broken down in those departments which are officiated by the middle class. The commissariat

officers in the East call upon him, addressing him through Lord PANMURE, to reconsider those aspersions upon their body: but Lord PANMURE himself is laid up with the gout; and the House of Commons, if it be not distracted by the ceremonials and festivities of the week, will perhaps press for an answer, how *itis that the War Department is to get on without the War Minister?* Mr. LAYARD, too, has been proving to his new Scotch constituents who have appointed him Lord Rector of Aberdeen University, that he understands "the reason why" the election of the day does so little to fit men for active life, since it overstrains their memory and clouds the development of their faculties. Notwithstanding his comparatively little regard for Parliamentary appearances and the reserves which have become a kind of routine amongst public men, Mr. LAYARD is rising in the public estimation. At least the Ministers will have to consider how they are to deal not only with the individual LAYARD, but with the increasing class in Parliament which he represents. The question is the more urgent and difficult, since there are other oppositions in Parliament—that which gathers round the Manchester nucleus,—the disintegrated Peelite nucleus,—the Tory nucleus, old and new,—all of which threaten some fusion. We know but of one intramural diversion for the brother that is threatened for the reopening session: it would be to arrange an entertainment within the walls of that theatre for the amusement and instruction of their French Majesties. Why not get up a sort of party-debate, with Mr. DISRAELI for stage-manager, as a display of our institutions? It would be amusing, and would divert trouble-some attention from real business.

In one respect Government have totally belied the accusations of their enemies and the inferences of their friends. Yesterday the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER sent to the City a notification, inviting the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England to a conference with Lord PALMERSTON and the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in order to make preliminary arrangements for a loan. This settles one question—that Government, at all events, will not try to proceed on the principle of paying for everything out of the current taxes of the year. And so far it falls in with the dictates of common sense, and with the rumours of extended war.

In another it seems possible that Ministers may modify the calculation of friends and foes: a deputation has waited upon the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER to dissuade him from the proposed measure on the newspaper stamp, and to substitute a new plan. This is a halfpenny stamp for newspapers, and a halfpenny stamped cover for a single postal transmission of un-stamped printed papers. There is no doubt that this would yield a great increase of revenue; and Mr. EDWARD BAINES's representations to that purpose appeared to have a strong effect on Sir GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS.

The Cambridge University Reform Bill has appeared. Its general structure is the same as that of the Oxford bill—a reform of the University constitution, a power to colleges to reform themselves by opening fellowships, &c., within a year, and a power to commissioners to reform them afterwards, if they omit to reform themselves. There is also the same modicum of University extension in the shape of private halls—which will probably be equally nugatory in both cases—and the same relaxation of tests up to the B.A. degree. The reform of the University constitution, if we may trust the writer in the *Times*, is a blunder. The *Caput Senatus* is deposed instead of the Board of Heads, whereas the Board of Heads is the real tyrant. We must observe, however, that the Board of Heads at Cambridge has not a legal existence like the Hebdomadal Board at Oxford. Independently of this, the proposed new governing body is bad, as being constructed on the "sectional" instead of the free system, the heads and professors each nominating one-third of the members from among their own body, while the remaining third is nominated by the colleges in a certain cycle. When will people learn the commonest lessons of freedom? The bill is brought in by the LORD CHANCELLOR, so that it will be first discussed in the Lords.

The discord between the vestry and incumbent of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, has reached a climax this week. Last Saturday the churchwarden was compelled to protest against the pagan rites practised by the incumbent and his curates, in honour apparently of the Queen of Flowers. On

Tuesday, after a disgraceful uproar, Mr. WESTERTON, who, we trust, finds Protestantism "pay," was re-elected churchwarden, and a resolution adopted, declaring that Mr. LIDDELL's mode of conducting worship is "highly offensive." Where is the Bishop? What a mockery must episcopal authority be in this divinely Established Church of England, when bishops can be braved, and parsons and parishes quarrel at pleasure!

The law calendar is uncommonly full this week of cases that peculiarly illustrate our social life. There is, for instance, the judgment in the case of DERBY *versus* HORWOOD: a proceeding instituted by the executors of the late Mr. Horwood to deprive Captain EDWARD HORWOOD of certain rights which he claimed as the successor of his late father, contrary to the claim of the captain's brothers and sisters. There is nothing unusual in the case, and the evidence intended to make out the claims of the executors for the family on the one side, and of the eldest son on the other, disclosed a state of family feud of the most discreditable kind. We see brother scheming against brother, sister getting up scenes against sister, and the poor old gentleman—all the while with faculties declining—made the sport and tool of one side against the other. As the world faded from his eyes, he saw his children quarrelling for his succession, and that was the last spectacle he enjoyed of his earthly home.

The case of Mrs. RAMSBOTHAM has less moral significance. The lady is the wife of a physician of some eminence, and she was detected taking goods, which she had not purchased, from the counter of a linendraper. Attention had already been called to her movements by previous occurrences. It is explained that she was in a state of health which renders women liable to unaccountable wishes and excitements, and the jury was equally divided upon the point whether she was morally guilty or not. The result of the trial was, that the jury were "discharged by consent," which amounts to no judgment, and the case falls through. Everybody is satisfied to see the unhappy lady released from accountability; but the question still remains—are such aberrations peculiar only to the classes well-to-do? or, does it not happen sometimes that there might be reasons for disbelieving moral culpability, although the garb of poverty lends an air of necessity to the act of purloining?

A much more painful case has occurred, in the conduct of Miss EMILIE GORDON, a young lady well connected, who has outraged her country neighbours by most offensive eccentricities. But this case we have abstained from noticing, because we hold that it ought never to have been made public. We happen to know that this unhappy young lady has already been under that guardian ship from which, it seems, she was prematurely removed.

As we rise again in the social scale, the illustrations of life become somewhat blacker. Mr. ERNEST FITZROY, a young gentleman of fortune, who will have 20,000*l.* in June next, and who has distinguished himself amongst the sect of the restoration, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, has been tried and convicted at Chichester of issuing forged cheques.

And the Honourable FRANCIS VILLIERS, fourth son of the Earl of JERSEY, Member for Rochester, and Steward of the Jockey Club, has suddenly disappeared, leaving liabilities to the extent of 100,000*l.* He was last seen, we believe, ostensibly following the hounds; but the bailiffs have found it practically impossible to follow him. Others follow him in a certain sense. It is said that there are many distinguished persons, with or without titles, who will be dragged in by his sudden default.

THE WAR.

It is almost a misnomer, this week, to have any such heading as "The War" at all. Since the fight on the 22nd, a languor seems to have fallen on both sides—that is to say, as far as regards actual hostilities; but the Russians continue their energetic measures of defence, and we continue our preparations for opening fire, though, up to the last advices, that long-talked-of event had not been initiated. The Russians still keep possession of their three rifle-pits; and they have dug four more, and have begun connecting them with each other by artificial works. The *Times* correspondent says, "Every look at the rifle-pits satisfies me that the Russians mean them as rudiments of advanced works against us, and that they are likely to prove very troublesome. The

Mamelon is a most serious ingredient in calculating the chances of an assault. The works on the east of it are also very dangerous. The Russians have already begun to arm them with heavy guns, and their fire will prove, I fear, extremely harassing."

The weather has become hot and summer-like, with hurricanes at night; but disease has not entirely disappeared. The 79th Regiment continues to suffer severely; the men die at the rate of two a day, and one hundred have died within a month. Scurvy, however, has diminished. Dr. Gavin, of the Sanitary Commission, has arrived, and complains, it is said, that he cannot find any of the authorities whom he wants. Dr. Sutherland, having caught the fever at Scutari, has gone to Smyrna to recruit himself. The railroad does not seem to have worked well; and the wagons of *matériel* appear still to lag and halt upon the way. We read also of the arrival of 280 men of the continuation of the "races;" of a little fight among the Croats; of a fire on board a ship in the harbour, which is supposed to have arisen from the drunkenness of some of the crew, but which was extinguished; and of a rumoured revolt of the Russian army at Perekop, accompanied by the murder of a general, and of some officers who were marching the men southwards.

It now appears that our loss in the affair of the 22nd was not one hundred, as at first supposed, but only a little above fifty. There is no doubt, however, that the losses of the Russians and of the French were larger.

From Eupatoria, we hear of no important action. An occasional *reconnaissance*, a few light skirmishes, and the routine operations of an invading army, form the sum of our news from that quarter. A *reconnaissance* which took place on the 23rd of March would probably, says a Vienna paper, have become a general engagement, had not Prince Gortchakoff given orders to retreat; but, at any rate, whatever the probabilities, it came to nothing. It is reported, however, that Omar Pacha occupies two villages half a league from Eupatoria, and that he is enlarging the circle of the fortifications for 50,000 men.

The annexed account of the armistice on the 24th, for the purpose of burying the dead on both sides, will be read with a deep and pathetic interest. It is one of the most striking episodes of the war, and makes us involuntarily reflect upon the dreary mistake of all war (unavoidable as it may be, and has been in this instance), when we see men, so prone to god fellowship and mutual service, constrained by the necessities of their position to become mutual murderers. One hour, courteous conversation and smile; the next, the fierce eye-glare and clenched teeth of deadly combat.

THE ARMISTICE OF TWO HOURS.

"Early on Saturday morning (the 24th ult.) a flag of truce was sent in by the Allies with proposition to the Russians for an armistice to bury the dead, which were lying in numbers—five or six Russians to every Frenchman and Englishman—in front of the Round Tower and Mamelon, and, after some delay, an answer in the affirmative was returned, and it was arranged that two hours should be granted for collecting and carrying away the dead on both sides. All the ravines leading to the front trenches were crowded with officers hastening a horse and foot down to the scene of so much hard fighting. The crests of the hills and the slopes in front of the batteries were covered with men, and they dotted the deadly interval between the batteries which had been before occupied alone by thousands of tons of dead fragments of shell discharged by French, English, and Russians during this protracted siege. The day was beautifully bright and warm. White flags waved gaily in the faint spring breeze above the embrasures of the batteries, and from the Round Tower and Mamelon. No soul had been visible in front of the lines an instant before the emblems of peace were run up to the flag-staff; and a sullen gun from the Mamelon had but a short time previously heralded the armistice. The instant the guns were hoisted, friend and foe swarmed out of the entrenchments. The Riflemen of the Allies and of the enemy from their lairs in the rifle-pits, and sauntered towards each other to behold their grim handiwork. The width of the space between the Russian lines and our own was filled with groups of unarmed soldiers.

Within a few hundred yards of the Mamelon the sight was strange beyond description. French, English, and Russian officers were walking about, saluting each other courteously as they passed, and occasionally entering into conversation; and a constant interchange of little civilities, such as offering and receiving cigarettes, was going on in each little group. Some of the Russian officers were evidently men of high rank and breeding. Their polished manners contrasted markedly with their plain and rather coarse clothing. They wore, with few exceptions, the invariable long grey coat over their uniforms. The French officers were all in *grande tenue*, and offered a striking contrast to many of our own officers, who were dressed à la Balaklava, and wore uncouth head-dresses, cat-skin coats, and nondescript paletots. The Russians were rather grave and reserved; but they seemed to fraternise with the French better with our allies than with the few privates of our

our regiments who were down towards the front. While all this civility was going on we were walking among the dead, over blood-stained ground, covered with evidence of recent fight. Broken muskets, bayonets, cartridge-boxes, caps, fragments of clothing, straps and belts, pieces of shell, little pools of clotted blood, shot and grape—shattered gabions and sandbags were visible around us on every side; and through the midst of the crowd stalked a solemn procession of soldiers bearing their departed comrades to their long home. I counted seventy-seven litters borne past me in fifteen minutes, each filled with a dead enemy. The contortions of the slain were horrible, and recalled the memory of the fields of Alma and Inkermann. The Russians appeared to treat their dead with great respect. The soldiers I saw were white-faced and seemed ill-fed, though many of them had powerful frames, square shoulders, and broad chests. All their dead who fell within and near our lines were stripped of boots and stockings. The cleanliness of their feet, and, in most cases, of their coarse linen shirts, was remarkable.

"In the midst of all this stern evidence of war, a certain amount of lively conversation began to spring up, in which the Russian officers indulged in a little badinage. Some of them asked our officers 'when we were coming in to take the place'; others, 'when we thought of going away.' Some congratulated us upon the excellent opportunity we had of getting a good look at Sebastopol, as the chance of a nearer view, except on similar occasions, was not in their opinion very probable. One officer asked a private, confidentially, in English, how many men we sent into the trenches? 'Begorra, only 7000 a-night,' and a wade covering party of 10,000, was the ready reply. The officer laughed, and turned away. At one time a Russian with a litter stopped by a dead body, and put it into the litter. He looked round for a comrade to help him. A Zouave at once advanced with much grace, and lifted it, to the infinite amusement of the bystanders; but the joke was not long-lived, as a Russian basely came up, and helped to carry off his dead comrade. In the town we could see large bodies of artillery in the streets, assembled at the corners and in the public places. Probably they were ordered out to make a show of their strength. The Russians denied that Prince Menschikoff was dead; but they admitted that Admiral Isturmin was killed.

"Owing to some misunderstanding or other, a little fusillade began among the riflemen on the left during the armistice, and disturbed our attention for a moment, but it was soon terminated. General Bosquet and several officers of rank of the allied army visited the trenches during the armistice, and staff officers were present on both sides to see that the men did not go out of bounds. The armistice was over about three o'clock. Scarcely had the white flag disappeared behind the parapet of the Mamelon before a round shot from the Sailors' Battery went slap through one of the embrasures of the Russian work, and dashed up a great pillar of earth inside. The Russians at once replied, and the noise of cannon soon re-echoed through the ravines."—*Times Correspondent.*

A GOOD SHOT.

"A splendid shot was made by the Naval Brigade from their 68-pounder. The Russians had mounted a piece of 70 lb. in the Mamelon, and on Sunday they directed shot and shell from it—now against Gordon's Battery, and now on the French. We generally shut them up, however, in a short time. On Monday morning they began again, and the officer in charge of the battery sent up to know what he was to do with the gun. The answer was, 'Fight it.' Our 68 was laid; and the very first shot went right through the embrasure, and smashed the Russian gun to pieces, to our intense satisfaction. This balances our account for the damage done to one of our 82-pounders, and to a heavier piece by the Russian fire within the last few days."—*Idem.*

REPORT OF PROGRESS.

"We are keeping up a steady fire on the town and its works continually, night and day, from the two sea service mortars in front of the picket-house. The enemy has good work to put the fires out caused by the shells from these pieces; but as the town is built of stone so much, this is accomplished without any great difficulty. Our advanced works extend to within a few yards (within 100) of the White Tower; so we must soon do something with that place. Our field 9-pounder pieces in the advanced trench do good work, and very often compel the Russian riflemen to leave their pits; they have been found to answer extremely well. A good many are under the impression that the garrison is not so strong as represented to be; their reasons for thinking so are the many marchings and relievings of troops outside the town. The force inside, and kept there, we know to be of foreign legion—Albanians and Argments; even some Irishmen.

"I am able to tell you that the electric wires are down from head-quarters and very close to Sir George Browne's quarters. We have now Balaklava head-quarters, and our extreme right, all linked together within a minute's call. The communication will even be carried to the trenches by means of a semaphore, which will be erected in the batteries, with one on the top of the hill in front of the Light Division, and messages taken from thence to the electric—the entire process not occupying five minutes. The whole is under the manage-

ment of Lieut. Stopford, R.E."—*Morning Post Correspondent.*

The same writer says that the English army now falls little short of 30,000 men; but he admits that deaths from low fever are still frequent.

STATE OF THE FORTIFICATIONS AND TOWN OF SEBASTOPOL.

"I was enabled (during the truce) to get within a very reasonable distance of the Malakhoff Tower, and certainly was much struck by the number, strength, and solidity of the earthworks round it. All of them seemed in beautiful repair, and more like the permanent defences of a regular fortress than the mere efforts of a sudden emergency. In front was a deep ditch, with strong *chevaux de frise* of rough-pointed timber at the other side; while above, from the edge of the fossé to the slope of the battery, were pointed stakes about three feet high, set so closely in the earth as to appear at a little distance like a dark band all round the work. But with such a commanding point as the Mamelon once in our possession, the whole of these stockades and the batteries behind them could be destroyed in a single day.

"On the left of Malakhoff, but projecting one hundred yards in advance of it, was the Redan. This is now one of the most tremendous of all the Russian works. Its three sides have double tiers of guns; there being in this battery alone, it is calculated, not less than 250 pieces of ordnance, some of them of the very heaviest calibre used in warfare. This work, like Malakhoff, is also defended by a broad deep ditch, with *chevaux de frise*, but without stakes, on the slope of the parapet.

"From between these batteries a most admirable view could be had right down into the town behind them. Even with the naked eye everything could be seen quite distinctly; but, with a good glass, a minute examination of every house could be made. The most minute examination which I could make failed to show me that we had inflicted any injury worth speaking of in the town. The little huts of the Turkish and Tartar population outside the walls are destroyed. The handsome town inside the walls is, as a town, uninjured. A barracks and a few warehouses nearest to the walls are much perforated, and the roofs nearly gone; but this is all. The large public buildings, the barracks, churches, and rows of splendid houses show no mark of injury of any kind. As I looked at some of the best streets, I could hardly persuade myself that I was not gazing at some of the better parts of Bath or Brighton, so white, regular, and handsome was their appearance. Very few persons were in the streets; probably I did not see more than thirty or forty in all, and, of this small number, at least two-thirds were soldiers. I saw no women of any class. A good many boats were busy about the harbour, and many people seemed at work on shore, a little above the water's edge on the north, where numbers of carts and arabs were passing to and fro; but beyond these signs of life there seemed nothing doing. The town itself appeared almost entirely deserted."—*Morning Herald Correspondent.*

Under the date of March the 26th, this writer says he believes we shall open fire in another week at the latest. He adds: "It is a matter of *positive certainty* that, if the allied commanders wish it, the whole town could be utterly destroyed in twenty-four hours." It may be so; but we must be careful how we talk of "positive certainties" before the fact.

GENERAL CANROBERT'S ACCOUNT OF THE SORTIE ON THE 22ND.

General Canrobert, in his despatch dated March 23, says:—

"About 11 o'clock at night, the enemy attempted a general sortie on this side, in which he appears to have employed no less than fifteen battalions, stated by the Russian prisoners to be each one thousand strong. These troops, divided into two columns, advanced in a body, and with savage howlings attacked the head of the road, and way we have formed in front of our parallel for reaching the ambuscades previously occupied by the enemy, ambuscades which it is our intention to connect strongly one with another, so as to make of them a *place d'armes*. Repulsed three times, and three times led back by their officers, the Russians were compelled to abandon their plan of occupying this point, which was defended by some companies of the 3rd regiment of Zouaves, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Banon. The combat there was obstinate, and has cost us dear, but has inflicted on the enemy losses far greater than ours, and proportioned to the masses he brought up.

"The efforts of the enemy, who could only pull down the still empty gabions, at this spot, being without effect, were next directed against the left of our parallel, towards the ravine of Karablinia, where he was warmly received by a fire of musketry, and was unable to penetrate. He then suddenly threw himself upon the right of the English parallel, contrived to cross the works, and found himself in the rear of our left, which for an instant was exposed to a murderous fire in reverse. General Antemarre, who commanded in the trench, made the necessary dispositions with his accustomed vigour and composure. The 4th battalion of Infantry Chasseurs, coming up to assist, was sent into the ravine, where it threw itself valiantly upon the enemy, who, being himself exposed, suffered considerable loss, and was repulsed to return no more.

"This operation of the besieged has differed completely from all those which he has hitherto attempted against our works. In order to insure its success, and notwithstanding the strength of the garrison, considerable as that is, he brought up from without two regiments (eight battalions) of fresh troops (those of Dnieper and Oungitsh). It was a species of general assault against our lines of communication, and the combination appeared uncommonly well devised for obtaining a great result. The importance of this failure on the part of the besieged ought to be estimated by the greatness of the object he had in view."

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

Before Sebastopol, March 27.

My Lord,—Advertising to my despatch of the 24th inst., I do myself the honour to state that the following officers have been brought to my notice as having distinguished themselves on the night of the 22nd, and morning of the 23rd, in addition to those whose names I have already submitted to your Lordship:—Major the Hon. James Lyon Browne, of the 21st Regiment, brother of the Hon. Captain Browne of the Royal Fusiliers, who, it has already been my painful duty to report, fell upon this occasion; Captain Butler of the 26th, and Captain Rickman of the 77th.

I am happy to say that Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, who was taken prisoner, was not wounded, and that Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who also fell into the enemy's hands, is not severely wounded, though he received some injury both in his head and hand. Major-General Eyre, the General Officer of the trenches, highly eulogises the dispositions of Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, and laments the loss of his services. The Major-General also speaks in the warmest terms of the conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Tylden, Royal Engineers, who received a contusion, which, however, I am glad to be able to assure your Lordship does not incapacitate him from continuing these exertions and displaying those qualities which render him so valuable an officer. There was a suspension of hostilities for about three hours on Saturday for the purpose of burying those who had fallen in the late encounters, and it was evident from the numbers of bodies of the enemy, and of the French, to whom the last ad. offices had to be paid, that the loss sustained both by the French and the Russians had been very severe, particularly that of the latter. Some French, too, were found lying close to the Mamelon,—a proof that their gallant spirit had carried them up to the enemy's intrenchments. Nothing of importance has since occurred. The siege operations continue to progress, and during the last two nights the interruption from the fire of the enemy has been inconsiderable. The enemy are very assiduous in the improvement of their defences and in the establishment of a trench in the front of the Mamelon, towards which our ally is advancing by serpentine sap. The weather continues very fine, and the appearance and health of the troops are manifestly improving. Dr. Gavin, of the Sanitary Commission, and Mr. Rawlinson, Civil Engineer, have arrived, and are earnestly applying themselves to the discharge of the duties they have undertaken to perform; and I will take care that they receive every assistance it may be in my power to afford them. The Himalaya has arrived, and has been disembarking her horses yesterday and this day in Casatbay. Since writing the above, I have received the official report that Captain A. E. Hill, of the 89th Regiment, was severely wounded and taken prisoner last night while posting his sentries in front of the advanced trench on our extreme left.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

The Lord Pamme, &c.

WAR MISCELLANEA.

THE SEA OF AZOF AND THE RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS.—"A Hertfordshire Incumbent" writes to the *Times* as follows:—"The natural highway from Central Russia is the Volga, down as low as Dubovka, where the river approaches very near to the Don. From this point, even the heaviest articles, such as fir-trees for ships' masts, are conveyed by land carriage to Katschalikai on the Don, and thence by water to Taganrog. By this route, troops, stores, and all the appliances of war, can be moved at almost every season of the year. The enormous amount of traffic on the Volga, even in the winter, may be estimated from the fact mentioned by Pallas, that, in the year he passed through Sorepta on his way to Astrakhan (1763), he found that no less than 16,900 one-horse sledges had arrived there in the previous autumn, before the river was frozen firmly enough to allow them at once to proceed onwards without risk. I entertain little doubt that during the past winter this means of transit has been made use of for military purposes, and that, as soon as the winter ice in the Lower Don has disappeared, men and material will be floated down that river, transhipped at Taganrog into vessels of a more substantial character, and landed on some part of the eastern coast of the peninsula, unless means can be adopted by the Allies for obtaining the command of the Sea of Azof by the first or second week in May." The writer, however, admits that, owing to the shallowness of the straits, it would be a very difficult matter to send a flotilla into the sea in question.



LE

NEWSPAPER

REAR-ADmiral PENAUD is announced in the *Moniteur* as the commander of the French naval division in the Baltic.

THE WOMEN LEAVING SEBASTOPOL.—The *Military Gazette* of Vienna contains a letter from Sebastopol, which states that General Osten-Sacken, on the 18th ult., published an order of the day enjoining all women to quit the town at once. The Grand Duke Nicholas, taking into consideration that a great number of these women possess nothing in the world, has been pleased to accord from his privy purse 100 roubles to each woman having a family, to enable her to remove, and from 20 roubles to 50 roubles to each unmarried woman, according as the case might seem to require (the rouble is a little over 4f.). It was supposed that this order was given in anticipation of active hostilities being on the point of being resumed.

RUSSIAN WAR CONTRIBUTIONS.—For the second time, the clergy of the convent of St. Sergius, near Moscow (which passes for one of the richest convents in Russia), have presented a sum of money to the Emperor for the purpose of carrying on the war, their gift on this occasion amounting to nearly a million francs.

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT.—The Genoa *Corriere Mercantile* of the 6th instant announces the arrival in that port, on the 5th, of the English steamers *Charity*, of 1007 tons, and *Cleopatra*, of 1019 tons, with several sailing transports. Those vessels formed part of the flotilla which is to convey the Piedmontese troops to the East. The *Military Gazette* states that the expeditionary corps is to remain *pro tempore* at Constantinople, with the French Imperial Guard. This is to be the army of reserve of the Allies.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY OF THE NORTH.—A letter from Hamburg in the *Independance Belge* asserts that the Allies will find in Finland 100,000 Russian troops, under the command of General de Berg, ready to oppose them, and that a force still more considerable will operate, under the command of General Sievers, against any attempt at disembarkation at Courland and Livonia. Statements such as these, however, must be received with caution.

GOVERNMENT PARSIMONIOUSNESS.—The engineer officers have complained that the fuses employed have in many instances been so old as not to be depended upon. Some, it is stated, have been dated as far back as 1803, since which time they have been lying in store at Malta or elsewhere.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

THE FRENCH OFFICIAL EXPLANATIONS OF THE EASTERN EXPEDITION.

A VERY important article appears in the *Moniteur* of Wednesday. It is, in fact, an official revelation of the secret plans and motives of the French Emperor in connexion with the war. The document is very long; but we subjoin the most important points. The writer thus summarises the chief perplexities which he undertakes to explain:—

"In what manner was the Eastern Expedition conceived? What are the expectations and the data that dictated its plan? What are the causes that modified it? Why was the Anglo French army landed in the Crimea instead of acting on the Danube and making a campaign in Bessarabia? How must we explain the long resistance of the besieged in presence of the ardour and heroism of the besiegers?"

Then follow the written instructions which the Emperor gave to Marshal St. Arnaud. They are contained in the annexed document:—

"In placing you, Marshal, at the head of a French army, about to fight at more than six hundred leagues from its native land, my first recommendation to you is to bestow the greatest care on the health of the troops, to spare them as much as possible, and not to come to an engagement unless you have made sure of two-thirds at least of the favourable chances."

"The peninsula of Gallipoli has been selected as the chief place of debarkation, because it is intended to be, as a strategical point, the basis of our operations—that is to say, the 'place d'armes,' where we can place our dépôts, ambulances, and provisions, and whence we can easily advance or re-embark. That will not prevent you on your arrival from stationing, if you deem it advisable, one or two divisions in the barracks either to the west of Constantinople or else at Scutari."

"So long as you are not in the presence of the enemy, the dislocation of your forces will be of small moment, and the presence of your troops at Constantinople may produce a good moral effect; but if, by chance, after advancing on the Balkans, you should be constrained to beat a retreat, it would be far more advantageous to regain the coast of Gallipoli than that of Constantinople, for the Russians would never venture from Adrianople to Constantinople, leaving as they would on their right a choice army of 60,000 men. If, nevertheless, there should be a wish to fortify the line of Karasu in front of Constantinople, it should only be done with the intention of allowing it to be defended by the Turks alone, since, I repeat it, our position will be more independent, more formidable, by being on the flanks of the Russian army, than by being blocked up in the peninsula of Thrace."

"This first point established, and the Anglo-French army once united on the shores of the Sea of Marmara,

you will have to come to an understanding with Omar Pacha and Lord Raglan respecting the adoption of one of the three following plans: 1. Either to march and meet the Russians on the Balkans. 2. Or to seize the Crimea. 3. Or to land, say at Odessa, or at any other spot on the Russian coast of the Black Sea.

"In the first case, Varna seems to me the important point for occupation. The infantry might go to it by sea, and the cavalry more easily perhaps by land. In no case ought the army ever to remove too far from the Black Sea, in order that it may have its communications constantly open with the fleet. In the second case, the one concerning the occupation of the Crimea, it is necessary above all things to be sure of the landing-place, in order that the disembarkation may be effected at a distance from the enemy, and that this place may be capable of being fortified quickly, so that it may serve as a support in case of a retreat. The capture of Sebastopol ought not to be attempted unless you are provided with at least half a battering train and a great many sacks of earth. When you approach that place do not neglect to seize Balaklava, a small port situated four leagues to the south of Sebastopol, by means of which communication may be easily kept up with the fleet during the continuance of the siege. In the third case, that in which an enterprise should be resolved on in concert with the admirals against Odessa, my principal advice is, never to divide your army, but always to march with all your troops united; for a compact mass of 40,000 men is always an imposing force; broken, it is worth nothing. If, however, you are obliged to divide your army, make arrangements for re-uniting it on some spot in twenty-four hours. If on the march it forms several columns, fix upon a point of reunion sufficiently distant from the enemy to prevent any column being attacked singly. If you repulse the Russians, proceed no farther than the Danube, unless the Austrians join in the movement. As a general rule, every movement ought to be concerted with the Commander-in-Chief of the English army. It is only on certain exceptional occasions, as when the safety of the army is concerned, that you should act on your own sole discretion."

"Marshal, I have full confidence in you; I am convinced that you will remain faithful to these instructions, and that you will bring fresh glory to our eagles."

The writer in the *Moniteur* then defends these instructions *seriatim*. He says that Gallipoli was selected as the point of debarkation because it is easily defended, and readily provisioned through the Sea of Marmora and the Thracian Gulf. A further consideration is thus stated:

"At the period the expedition was about to leave, that is to say in April, 1854, inquiries were anxiously made whether our military forces would arrive in time to cover Constantinople. A defensive war then appeared much more likely than an offensive one. Had the Turks lost a single battle on the Danube, the Russians would have been able to reach the Balkan in three days' march, and would have had the road to Constantinople open to them. The occupation of Gallipoli entirely covered that capital. The two allied Governments were fully alive to the fact, that, even had a Russian army entered Adrianople, it would not have been able to advance upon Constantinople, leaving an army of 60,000 English and French on its right flank; and this foresight is to be found in the instructions of the Emperor."

When, however, the allied armies landed in the Crimea, "the scene began to be changed;" the advance of the Russians was broken by the defence of Silistria; and the French and English generals thought they should be able to arrive "in time to save Silistria," or at any rate to hold the Balkans, "having, as it were, the two wings of their army protected by the fortresses of Schumla and Varna." It is added that, "if the Russians had taken Silistria, the fall of which was announced as inevitable in the reports of Omar Pacha, the fate of the Ottoman Empire might have depended upon one general engagement." The writer then says that, upon the retreat of the Russians, it would have been madness for the Allies to pursue, as the state of the country was such that it would have placed them in peril of starvation, or death from pestilential disease. An advance into Bessarabia, without the co-operation of Austria, would have been fatal, since the base of their operations was the sea, and they were without the proper provisions, means of transport, artillery, or munitions for such an undertaking. The simple reconnaissance of two days in the Dobrudzha, in which the Allies suffered a murderous loss, is instances as a proof of this. The help of Austria would have altered the case; but Austria was naturally waiting for the co-operation of Germany, with its 500,000 troops.

A state of inactivity, however, was impossible consistently with honour. The expedition to the Crimea was therefore decided on; and Marshal St. Arnaud received "hints or advice" to the following effect:—

"He will make himself thoroughly acquainted with the nature and amount of the Russian forces in the Crimea; find out whether those forces are too formidable; and land in a spot which may serve as a basis for future operations. The best place seems to be

Theodosia, called Kaffa now. This spot, however, is objectionable, as being forty leagues from Sebastopol; but it offers great advantages. In the first place, the bay is large and safe. The ships of the squadron are there in perfect safety; and the same remark applies to the barques which bring supplies to the army. In the next place, our army, once established on the spot, may use it as a proper base of operations. If we occupy reinforcements coming by the way of the Sea of Azof and the Caucasus. We make our way onward towards the centre of the country, at the same time that we have its resources at our command. We take possession of Simferopol, the strategical centre of the peninsula, and have the road open to Sebastopol, on which, probably, there will be a great battle. In the event of this being against us, we may retreat upon Kaffa, and nothing is compromised. If it is in our favour, we can besiege Sebastopol, and by investing it completely we shall compel it to surrender in a tolerably short interval. Unluckily this advice was not taken. Whether the generals-in-chief had not sufficient troops to undertake this long journey in the Crimea, or whether they expected a speedier result from a bold and unexpected *coup de main*, they resolved, as is now well known, to land at some few leagues distant from Sebastopol."

Subsequent events are then briefly touched on, and the writer adds:—"The consequence of retreating towards the south was to give up the northern heights—in other words, to abandon the idea of investing the fortification. The Anglo-French army, in fact, was not sufficiently numerous to invest the place completely." The possibility of an assault is thus alluded to:—

"When the Anglo-French army arrived before Sebastopol, perhaps it was practicable to attempt an assault; but such an enterprise would have been somewhat adventurous, inasmuch as the allied forces had not sufficient artillery to silence that of the enemy. Doubtless, nothing was impossible to an Anglo-French army, composed of generals and soldiers such as those who for the last six months have manifested their character in the perils, fatigues, and sufferings of this long siege; but nothing short of success could have justified a *coup de main*. The responsibility of command imposes prudence before all things; and prudence prescribed to the generals-in-chief not to deliver the assault with an army of 50,000 men at placed on a rock, wanting artillery, ammunition, reserves—not having its rear secured by entrenchments in case of a check, and having no refuge but its ships. That would have been to risk the fortune and the fate of the expedition, and nothing should be hazarded at a distance of 800 leagues from one's own country. The *coup de main*, which the generals thought possible after the battle of the Alma, escaped them, and it only remained to proceed with the siege after the rules of military art."

The *Moniteur* then goes into very minute technical details with respect to the modes of attack employed in the siege. Into these it will not be necessary for us to enter, as they would not be of interest to, or even understood by, the general reader. The article concludes with a panegyric on the marvellous nature of the siege, and on the courage and skill of the French and English.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

The sittings of the Plenipotentiaries have been resumed; the Ninth Conference being held on Monday. According to a telegraphic despatch from Vienna, published in the *Times* of Wednesday, the sitting was very short, and not satisfactory, and it is uncertain when the next Conference will be held. Nothing, however, is decidedly known; and the public is distracted with a perfect Babel of rumours having no authentic origin, often contradicting one another, and tending to no other effect than confusion and uneasiness. Indeed, in the present lull, both of political and of war news, the probabilities and possibilities (to say nothing of the converse) arising from the negotiations form the staple topic of professional politicians, both here and abroad, and afford them a magnificent field for the display of their conjectural ingenuity. Some maintain with undiminished confidence that the consultations of the state physicians will infallibly lead to peace; others, with greater probability, say they will but leave the guard where they found it. But, at the end of all these assertions and reasonings, we are forced to adopt the modest self-criticism of Socrates—"We only know that we know nothing."

With respect to the alleged shortness of the Ninth Sitting, the evening organ of our Government (*the Globe*) remarks:—"The meeting notified above may have been for the purpose of formally introducing the new French and Turkish Envoys, and its brevity may arise from the fact, that the Russian Envoy had not received their instructions to recommence the formal discussions. Indeed, the despatch omits to state whether the Russian Envoy even attended the meeting."

The *Independance* of Tuesday takes pains to remove an impression that M. Drouyn de Lhuys goes to Vienna with an *ultimatum*—to be accepted word

for word, or rejected entirely. It states that, though the French Minister is doubtless commissioned to express the final views of the Western Powers, yet the terms in which the final arrangement (if such should result) shall be couched, are of course left for the common consideration of the Conference.

The *Constitutionnel* says that Prince Gortschakoff is reported to have remarked at the Conferences, "If the Western Powers wish to destroy Sebastopol, let them do it themselves. Our government cannot do it without dishonour."

The *Page* publishes the text of the instructions with which the Ottoman Government has furnished its ambassador at Vienna. These instructions have reference to the conduct of the ambassador in connexion with the Conferences; and commence by asserting the "indisputable right" of the Sublime Porte to be heard, "both on the principles that constitute the basis" of any treaty of peace which may result from the negotiations, "and on their practical consequences." It is added, with a certain appearance of uneasiness and apprehension which runs through the whole document,

"This mode of proceeding is too natural to admit of a doubt respecting the adhesion of the representatives of the Allied Powers on this subject. Nevertheless, by way of additional precaution, and to obviate any future misunderstanding or difficulty, your Excellency will on this point enter into formal explanations with Count Buol, Lord Westmoreland, and Baron de Bourquenay, who will transmit to us the result."

The Turkish ambassador is, for the present, to discuss the questions raised merely *ad referendum*; but the following general instructions are given him in connexion with the Four Points:-

"In the First Article it would be incumbent, when abolishing Russia's protectorate over Wallachia and Moldavia, that the rights granted by the Porte to these two Principalities, as also to Servia, should be established in one organic law, and placed under the guarantee of the great Powers. On this article there are numerous other important observations to be made, which deserve the attention of the Allies. They should not be lost under the erroneous impression, which appears to exist, that a real protectorate has ever been granted to Russia by virtue of treaties concerning the Danubian provinces. All that results from those treaties may be reduced to an assurance given to Russia, that the institutions established in these provinces should be neither modified nor destroyed. But under the pretext of neighbourhood and similarity of religion, Russia, as is well known, without the slightest respect for existing institutions, and by a great perversion of engagements, sought merely to gain her own ends, and satisfy her own private interests, as the conduct of the Russian consuls, in arrogating a *de facto* sovereignty at Jassy and Bucharest, has at all times proved.

"With respect to the Second Article, concerning the question of the Danube, it will be necessary for us to explain on our side our observations respecting the means of both safeguarding the navigation of the Danube and maintaining intact the rights of the Sublime Porte along the banks of this river.

"The Third Article relates to the revision of the treaty of July 13, 1841, with the view of connecting the existence of the Ottoman Empire more closely with the equilibrium of Europe, by putting an end to the predominance of Russia in the Black Sea. The Sublime Porte, grateful for the display of sincere friendship which the great Powers intend bestowing on her in this matter, approves of the material means by which these Powers are desirous of virtually terminating the Russian preponderance. But it is at the same time the duty of the Sublime Porte to take good heed that the revision of the treaty of 1841 be not couched in terms capable of infringing on its rights of sovereignty in the Bosphorus and Dardanelles, or over any other part of its territory where the safety of the empire might possibly be endangered.

"Finally, on arriving at the Fourth Article, since the repose and welfare of all the subjects of the Ottoman Empire are of paramount interest for the Sublime Porte, it has for this object assured to all its Christian subjects, in the most solemn and public manner, the enjoyment of the rights and ancient privileges accorded to them by the Sultans who were the predecessors of his present Majesty, as likewise those recently conceded by his gracious imperial will and pleasure. In again declaring before all the world that he has no intention whatever of encroaching upon or diminishing those rights, his Imperial Majesty doubts not at the same time that, on the part of the allied and friendly Powers, they will continue to deem as an object of the highest importance that whatever concerns the internal administration of the subjects of the empire should not be the subject of any stipulation not compatible with the independence of the Sublime Porte—an independence which these very allied Powers have declared their wish to protect against the encroachments of Russia. It is on that account that the Sublime Porte will, in concert with its allies, reject any attempt on the part of Prince Gortschakoff to obtain the insertion into the treaty of peace of any guaranteeing clause whatever by which the full in-

tegrity of its independence may be exposed to encroachment."

We will not inflict upon the reader the host of idle rumours, speculations, and assertions which have been poured forth during the past week; but an article in the *Débats* has attracted sufficient attention to require some notice, though its allegations must of course be received with considerable reservation. It is asserted by the *Débats* that, during the suspension of the Conference, frequent unofficial meetings have taken place in M. de Buol's office, to talk over the various solutions suggested from Berlin or elsewhere; and that the ministers of several secondary German states have been admitted to these debates. From a summary of the *Débats* article, published by the *Daily News*, we learn that—

"It is proposed to maintain and proclaim anew the principle of closing the Straits, to declare the Black Sea a *mare clausum*, but, at the same time, to stipulate that the Powers bordering on that sea should have no naval force there. Another plan is that the Straits of the Dardanelles should be closed against Russia (whose ships of war should not be allowed to leave the Black Sea), but open to other nations. The Russian plenipotentiaries have provisionally repudiated any proposition tending to limit the Russian naval forces in the Black Sea; they make no objection to the abolition of the principles of the closing of the Straits; they are ready to consent to the free circulation of ships of war of all nations in the Dardanelles, the Bosphorus, and the Black Sea, provided it is well understood that Russian ships of war shall enjoy reciprocal rights, and may always freely pass backwards and forwards from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean; and they are willing that, if desired, the Sultan, or the Western Powers, shall have the right to make as many maritime stations as they please on the Turkish coast opposite the Crimea. The *Débats* goes on to say that Turkey made serious objections (in the private meetings) against the opening of the Straits, and was indisposed to consent to a revision of the treaty of 1841, if the consequences of that revision was to be the recognition of the right of every power in the world to pass the Dardanelles and Bosphorus with ships of war. The consequence to be apprehended from such a stipulation would be (the Turkish minister said) that the independence, and even the existence, of Turkey would be at an end. Constantinople would become a mere commercial town, open to all comers, and exposed, defenceless, to every insult. The principle of closing the Dardanelles is, say the Turks, as ancient as the domination of the Ottomans at Constantinople, and is a consequence of the simultaneous possession of the European and Asiatic provinces situated upon the banks of the Straits."

TURKISH REFORMS.

LORD STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE has addressed a circular to the English consuls in the Levant, giving them an account of four important measures of reform emanating from the Turkish Government, and requesting that they will aid the local authorities in enforcing them, since many traditional prejudices and adverse interests will need to be overcome, and the task will be one of great difficulty, requiring support and encouragement. His lordship appends the annexed outline of these measures:—

"By the first, a signal improvement has been introduced into the procedure of criminal jurisdiction throughout the Ottoman Empire. New securities have been given to the protection of innocence, and for the discovery of guilt, in trials of that description; and, above all, the testimony of witnesses, to whatever class of the Sultan's subjects they may belong, has been therewith placed on a footing of perfect equality.

"The second is directed against the disorders and acts of cruel violence but too frequently perpetrated by irregular soldiers in the Porte's service, or by unemployed individuals, abandoned to the indulgence of their passions, and addicted to plunder and sanguinary crime.

"The third has established the removal of every kind of restriction attached of late to the free exportation of grain from the ports of Turkey.

"The fourth, and not the least beneficial, is a complete interdiction of the traffic in slaves from Georgia and Circassia."

AMERICA.

The latest advices received at New York from the South American Pacific coast, states on the authority of *El Mercurio de Provincias*, published at Valparaiso, that a protest against the transfer to the United States of any interest whatever in the Galapagos Islands has been made by the minister of Peru, the chargé d'affaires of Spain and France, and the English consul at Quito. The *New York Courier and Enquirer* says that this tendency on the part of England and France to interfere in the negotiations between the United States and their sister republics of the West, is extremely irritating to Americans, and that there is no justifiable ground for such proceedings.

All accounts received from Canada (says the American correspondent of the *Daily News*) lead us to the opinion that the Canadians are fast verging towards republicanism. A bill has been introduced

into the Canadian Parliament by Mr. Cauchon, the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to render the Legislative Council elective. A party seems to have been organised to insist upon the extension of the same principle to the governor-generalship, the judiciary, and the magistracy. A profound feeling of discontent has, it is said, been created by the Militia Bill; and there are many other signs which would appear to indicate a desire to uproot the present imperial system, which in the opinion even of the people of the United States has been characterised, during the late years especially, by the largest spirit of liberality.

There is a split in the ranks of the "Fillibusters." Colonel McKinney has been dismissed; and the freebooters, it is thought, will be scattered. "Fillibuster" Captain Walker, however, thinks of rallying the ranks, and proposing to them some new scheme of buccaneering. It is said that President Pierce is well inclined towards the "Fillibusters," but is kept in check by the superior influence of Mr. Secretary Marcy.

The Sardinian Government has explained that the individuals recently thrown by it upon the shores of the United States were not paupers, but political exiles from Lombardy. Nevertheless, they were provided with so scanty a stock of money, that they were very soon obliged to come upon the American almshouses. America naturally objects to being thus forced to support the outcast poverty of Europe; more especially as the evil increases year by year.

We find it stated, by the correspondent previously quoted, that "Colonel McCluny, the notorious American duellist, who is said during his life to have killed in personal combat more than fifty persons, has come to a most appropriate end—he has killed himself. This barbarous practice of duelling, which at one time prevailed extensively in the south, is now nearly obsolete. Stringent enactments exist against it in all the states; and where we had formerly two duels a day, we have now scarcely a dozen a year."

CALIFORNIA.—The recent crash in the commercial world has, to a certain extent, passed. Many of the houses which had suspended business are either resuming, or about to resume. The cause of these suspensions is stated to be the appropriation by the bankers of their depositors' money, which they were consequently unable to return when it was suddenly demanded. A new and extensive mining district of many miles has been discovered, which goes by the name of "Kern River Diggings," about 650 miles south of San Francisco, and which, from its richness, has attracted a great many miners from all parts of the State. Several destructive fires (as usual) have lately taken place in California.

MEXICO AND SOUTH AMERICA.—The partisans of the insurgent leader Alvarez, at Acapulco, affirm, under date the 6th of March, that he is gaining great successes, and that before long he will enter the city of Mexico in triumph. In Peruvian affairs there has been no further change. From Ecuador it is stated that very rich silver mines have been discovered at a place called Riobamba.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

(Extract from a private letter.)

PARIS, April 12.

... I suppose you have heard what great discontent has been created by the conduct of the Government with reference to the Exhibition. The Faubourg St. Antoine was almost entirely rejected by the jury, this has excited such anger that there is to be a new gallery constructed, and an endeavour has been made to soothe the rejected by alleging want of space. Perhaps, after all, the Government is, in itself, not immediately to blame. It seems almost too absurd to suppose that they would wilfully create enemies. But they are surrounded by a set of unscrupulous speculators who want to make money by every form of jobbery. ... You have seen, of course, the article in the *Moniteur* on the conduct of the war. It is not only an answer to the Brussels pamphlet, but to the universal impatience now prevailing here. It is thought that a government which has always affected reserve must begin to be afraid when it is reduced to the defensive. The state of feeling in France—i. e. in Paris—is incurably hostile. Many arrests take place daily. The report is, that after the visit to England will come the expedition to the Crimea; and that the opening of the Exhibition will be put off till the 15th of June in consequence. Some of the English exhibitors threaten to send back what they have brought; others have already sold again.

Domenico Cecchetti, a workman employed in a tobacco manufactory at Florence, has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment for reading the Bible. He is a widower with four children, of whom the youngest is only six years old. On being examined by the Chancellor of

the Delegation, he had the boldness to say that the Pope is a more constituted authority, and that he acknowledged no headship but that of Christ.

A letter from Berne states that, in consequence of the ratification of the convention of Milan by the Austrian Government, the Tieines, who had been expelled, will be allowed to return into Lombardy from the 11th inst.

A circular despatch has been addressed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the diplomatic representatives of France at the various courts of Germany. It is an indirect reference to that despatch in which M. de Manteuffel expressed his astonishment that the French Government should have taken notice of some observations made by M. de Bismarck, Prussian Plenipotentiary at the Frankfort Diet, in that assembly, and in which also he denied the right of any foreign Power to interfere with the deliberations of the Diet. The French minister contends that, "when an opinion put forth at Frankfort has had sufficient echo to pass the limits of the federal deliberations," foreign governments have a right to discuss it, and to make objections if they think fit.

The Spanish Cortes have rejected, by a majority of 163 to 50, the amendment proposed by M. Vargas, alcalde of Madrid, against the bill on the National Guard. The sitting was a very stormy one.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid, received in Paris on Wednesday, says that "a vote of confidence in the National Guard has been proposed and unanimously adopted. Some alarming shouts were raised by groups assembled round the Palace of the Cortes. The groups were dispersed without resistance. Madrid is perfectly tranquil. The National Guard is animated by the best disposition."

The Spanish correspondent of the *Times* says that an official note has been received by Lord Howden, in which it is stated that the Spanish Government has felt it to be its painful duty to transmit copies of the whole of the papers, relating to the recent affair in connexion with the Protestants, to the English Government. Lord Howden considers this as completely tantamount to an application for recall. The *Times* correspondent thinks that the Spanish Government is desirous to do justice to all religious sects, but that, being weak and surrounded with difficulties, it is obliged to move with caution. Lord Howden, the same writer conceives, had acted with a well-meant, but too urgent, zeal. If the English Government should convey the slightest hint of censure upon the conduct of his minister, it is confidently expected that his lordship will resign.—In a recent sitting of the Cortes, the Minister of the Interior gave his version of the affair, and denied that the Protestant clergyman at Seville had been in any way molested. Lord Howden, in consequence, wrote to the *Clarion Publico*, charging the Minister with a *suppressio veri*.

Baron de Beust, the Saxon Minister of Foreign Affairs, has addressed a despatch (dated April 6) to the Saxon Ambassador at Vienna relative to the question of the mobilisation of the Federal forces. Saxony is of opinion that the necessity for such mobilisation rests entirely with certain future eventualities; she therefore opposes herself decidedly to "measures which might be considered as a demonstration against the West as long as the liberty of the Confederation is not menaced from that quarter." The despatch concludes by observing— "As regards the question put in the despatch of Count Buol, whether the placing on a war footing of the Federal contingents shall be within or outside the Federal territories, we think that on this point also we may adhere to the *exposé des motifs* of the committee relative to the resolution of the 8th of February, which says that the proposed placing on a war footing is to be understood in this sense, that it be assured that within fifteen days after the request is made, the troops be ready to take the field in their respective quarters. But we are, on the other hand, perfectly convinced that the simplest consideration of existing facts excludes the supposition that thereby it is demanded that Austria shall assemble her Federal contingents on German territory, as the despatch of the 28th of February seems to admit."

Nine men have been found guilty at Angers, in France, of a Red Republican and Socialist conspiracy. On one occasion, these men held a meeting in a railway tunnel. They were charged with having openly preached the pillage of the rich, and recommended assassination as a means to their end. It appears that they also expressed wishes for the success of the Russians.

The Vistula has overflowed, and the inhabitants of East Prussia have suffered very greatly in consequence.

The Imperial ordinance for the annual recruitment of the Austrian army is usually issued in the spring. This year, it is said, the order will not appear until it be known what may be the course rendered necessary by the result of the Conferences.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday announces that, in answer to the application of the French minister at Brussels with respect to the celebrated pamphlet "By a General Officer," the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs replied, on the 7th of April, that in the opinion of the law advisers of the crown, it would be impossible, in accordance with the existing laws, to institute proceedings that would meet the exclusive object proposed by the Government of the Emperor—that is to say, to obtain a decree for the suppression of a title which, would deliberately with

sufficient ingenuity for escaping an action at law, conceals an impudent speculation. From the steps prescribed to the envoy of his Imperial Majesty at Brussels, there will remain the formal and direct denial of the imputation that have been published by the foreign press; and parties who gave credence to them will have their attention called to the repudiation in question."

THE HOPWOOD WILL CASE.

On Saturday, the Attorney-General began the defence. He said that Captain Hopwood had not stated that his father was mad, but that, from his great age, there was a weakness of intellect which rendered him incapable of transacting matters of business, and liable to receive undue influence from others. His mind, indeed, was so changed, that he would behave with impropriety before ladies. The Attorney-General then commented severely upon the conduct of Mr. Frank Hopwood, to whose officious interference he attributed the disagreements between the Captain and his father.

Mrs. Edward Hopwood, the wife of the defendant, was the first witness called. The chief points in her evidence were that Mr. Hopwood had gradually become perfectly childish in his intellect; that Mr. Frank Hopwood had himself urged Captain Hopwood to take their father's affairs into his hands; that, upon the occasion of her visit to Mr. Hopwood to implore him to see her husband, Mr. F. Hopwood would insist on being present, though the father was willing that they should be alone; that the former, in conjunction with Lady Eleanor, prompted the latter in everything which he said; and that Lady Eleanor induced Mr. Hopwood to refuse receiving the Captain's letter of explanation unless it was sent through the post. Mrs. Hopwood also stated that she was ordered abruptly to quit the house, though it was raining hard at the time, and she did not know where to go to; and that she was told, if she did not go immediately, she would be put out.

Captain Hopwood was then examined, and, having spoken of the weakening of his father's intellect, said:—

"In July, 1852, I arranged with Mr. Slater that, if there was anything important in business matters to do, he should communicate with me. At the same time, my brother Frank said it was desirable that Mr. Livesey, who paid my father a great deal of money, should pay it direct into the bank instead of to my father, as he was in the habit of losing money. This was agreed to. My brother Frank also suggested that the household bills should be sent to Mr. Dixon, and paid by him. They had previously been sent in to my father. I said it was a good suggestion, and it was carried. My brother Frank and myself afterwards communicated this arrangement to my father, and he agreed to it. Colonel Hopwood very strongly urged me to take the management of the property. I was averse to doing so at the time, because I lived at a distance. Colonel Hopwood said my father was no longer fit to manage the business, or to apply to about business. In the following August, my father visited me in Wales, when I noticed him to be in the same state as I have described. Shortly after my father's return to Hopwood, I received a very singular letter from him. It was directed to me, and began as if addressed to my sister Mary, and concluded as if addressed to my brother Harvey. At this period I received a letter from White, the butler, stating that my father was confused and seemed to think I was detaining Harvey, and he desired me to write to him. In the beginning of the following January, I heard that my father had had another attack (having had two previously). On the 19th of January, 1853, I went to Hopwood, and found my father still weaker in memory as to passing events. On mentioning my wife's name and the children's, he took no notice. On that occasion, I had a conversation with Colonel Hopwood, who told me that my father was in a very precarious state, and that Mr. Wood, the medical man, had informed him that softening of the brain was going on. Colonel Hopwood again urged me to take the management of the estates, which I agreed to. I then gave orders accordingly to the various agents; and, on apprising Colonel Hopwood of what I had done, he seemed very glad. At that time I saw my father attempting to read, and sitting with the newspaper indifferently wrong side up. Colonel Hopwood told me he could not read. After this time I gave orders to White and to Mrs. Williams. White said he had given up taking his book to my father, as he did not understand him."

Captain Hopwood was cross-examined; but his testimony was not shaken.

Mr. Harrop, a friend of the family, gave evidence with respect to Mr. Hopwood's imbecility after the attack of 1852, and spoke of the disagreements between the brothers.—Mr. James Dixon, land agent to the Hopwood estate, said that, in 1850-51-52-53, the accounts were examined and signed by Mr. Frank Hopwood, and that that gentleman had said his brother, the Captain, ought to take the control of the property. The witness thought that Mr. Hopwood, sen., was quite incapable of understanding matters of business, as he would wander and talk nonsense.

Mr. Thomas Livesey, coal proprietor, and manager of Mr. Hopwood's colliery, gave evidence to the effect that, in May or June, 1852, Mr. Frank Hopwood told him not to pay any more money to his father, but into the bank instead; but that in April, 1853, Mr. Hopwood directed that the accounts should be brought to him. About the same period, Mr. F. Hopwood took the management of the Chamber estate in place of Captain Hopwood. The witness believed that from 1852 Mr. Hopwood was incapable of managing any business; and it would seem that he was sometimes prompted by Mr. F. Hopwood when he gave directions about the estates.

A great number of witnesses, friends or dependents of the family, testified to the imbecility of the late Mr. Hopwood, and gave instances of delusion and wandering on his part. On one occasion, he accidentally upset the tea-pot at breakfast; upon which he was so excited that, with an oath, he threw a knife across the table at a lady who was present. On another occasion he was looking out of window, when he asked, "What those soldiers were doing?" there being no soldiers there at all. One morning he mistook a female servant of his for a man servant; and he commenced a letter to his third son in this manner:—"Dear Harvey,—Here I am on my last London legs." The unfinished letter was taken from him; and it does not seem that he missed it. Up to the time of his attacks of illness he had been very amiable; but he then became extremely irritable, and would swear, which was not formerly his habit. He appeared, according to the witnesses for the defence, not to take interest in anything; and it was scarcely possible to engage him in conversation.

Mr. Wood, the medical attendant on Mr. Hopwood, said that that gentleman had suffered since 1849 from congestion of the blood in the head, and that his intellect had been much weakened in consequence. Captain Hopwood threatened to take out a commission of lunacy against him, and this led to the family differences. In the opinion of the witness, Mr. Hopwood could not understand any matter of business, and was not in a fit state of mind to make a will.

All the witnesses having been now examined, the Attorney-General addressed the jury, recapitulating the evidence for the defence. On the next day, Sir Frederick Thesiger replied on behalf of the plaintiff. He observed:—

"The interest of Lord and Lady Sefton is not shown whether this will be established or not. Neither is Mr. Slater—a gentleman of deservedly high professional reputation—any interest in the result. Mr. Frank Hopwood was singled out as the principal object of my learned friend's vituperation. Mr. Frank Hopwood was from the first averse to any addition of benefit to himself. It is admitted on both sides that in the entry of 1853 Captain Hopwood's brothers wished him to undertake the management of the estates. The only difference between them is that the brothers desired that such interference should take place with the assent of their father. Captain Hopwood resided in Wales—too far to attend to his father's comforts during his latter years. One of his brothers always resided with their father. If, as alleged, Captain Hopwood was satisfied of his father's incompetence, should he not, following a reasonable example, with filial piety, have thrown a veil over his parent's helplessness? On the contrary, he might interfere, as if he were actually enjoying the property instead of being its heir. His arrangements were not made with a view to his father's comfort, but were dictated by sordid economy. The fish were ordered not to be sent daily, the supply of tea even was scanty, and a heavy pane in his father's library was long suffered to remain unopened. His orders to the housekeeper and butler were peremptory. The rest of Mr. Hopwood's family endeavoured to conceal these things from him. What were the family to do? Were they to see their father degraded into a cipher?"

Sir Frederick then went over the whole of the evidence of the plaintiff's witnesses, contrasting it with that given on the other side. His speech occupied four hours, and was followed by the summing-up of Mr. Justice Cresswell. This was in itself a very elaborate speech; the whole of the evidence being minutely examined, and the discrepancies between the different allegations exhibited and criticised. A certain amount of leaning towards the plaintiff, a plaintiff, was evident throughout this summary, and the Judge, among other inconsistencies, pointed out that Mr. Wood, although he now stated that Mr. Hopwood had been unfit to make a will ever since July, 1852, had said, in April, 1853, that he was quite fit for matters of business, and that the idea of a commission of lunacy was absurd.

The jury retired at a quarter past seven o'clock. As there did not appear to be any prospect of their agreeing, his Lordship left the court about eight o'clock, directing that the decision should be reserved to him. At a quarter past ten o'clock, however, the jury again made their appearance, and delivered their verdict to the prothonotary of the court. It was for the defendant on both issues. A great crowd still remained in court, and immediately on the foremen

announcing the decision, they rose *en masse*, and cheered vociferously for several minutes, no one present attempting to stop this extraordinary ebullition of feeling.

This elaborate trial did not conclude until Wednesday, having extended over seven days.

THE CASE OF MRS. RAMSBOTHAM.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on Wednesday, Mrs. Ramsbotham surrendered to take her trial on a charge of two distinct larcenies—viz., one of two sleeves on the 15th of March last, and one of four handkerchiefs on the 27th of March; the articles in both cases being the property of the prosecutor, John Watkins Moule. The accused, who was accommodated with a seat, pleaded Not Guilty.

The facts of the second count are so well known, that they need not be repeated; but those connected with the first count were now for the first time stated as follows by Mr. Bodkin, counsel for the prosecution:

"On the 15th of March Mrs. Ramsbotham went to the prosecutor's shop, and was served by an assistant named Churchouse, and he, on turning round, observed the frills of a pair of sleeves hanging from beneath her shawl on her arm. At that time the prosecutor was not in the way; but Churchouse mentioned the circumstance to Mr. Moule, jun., who came into the shop. The frill, however, had then entirely disappeared under the shawl, and thinking that it might possibly be a mistake, and his father was away, Mr. John Moule did not tax her with it. But after she was gone, the sleeves on the counter were counted, and one pair was missed; and, as he had stated, in the conversation relating to the subsequent charge she admitted that she did take them, and it was with this knowledge that Mr. Moule took the course he did."

With respect to Mrs. Ramsbotham's denial of having been to Mr. Moule's shop when pursued after the second theft, Mr. Bodkin admitted that in the very same breath she corrected herself, and said, 'Oh yes, I have,' so that it was not contended that her first reply was an absolute or wilful denial.

The chief point in the evidence was the assertion by the shopman Welsh that he had said to young Moule, on the 27th of March, 'Here is Mrs. Ramsbotham coming in,' and the counter-statement by Moule that he had not heard that remark, and that, though he knew it was Mrs. Ramsbotham who took the sleeves on the 15th, he did not know it was she to whom he offered the gloves on the 27th. This discrepancy afforded Mr. Ballantine, who appeared for the defence, the text of the most effective argument (as touching the matters of fact) in his speech. He said—

"The object of young Moule in placing these gloves before the prisoner was, not that she should buy them, but that she should steal them; it was a trap laid for the victim, and poor Mrs. Ramsbotham fell into it. The conduct of the prosecutor had not been that which one fellow-Christian should pursue towards another. When the affair of the sleeves took place he should have warned Dr. Ramsbotham. He should have said 'Your wife has done so-and-so; I won't prosecute;' and then told him to take care of her. He knew who she was, and where she lived, and he could easily have done so. Did he not know that many ladies had a mania of this kind? It was well known and notorious. Could he not then have warned Dr. Ramsbotham of what had occurred? Had he done so, it would have been much better than his tempting her to take the handkerchiefs, so as to make sure of her. The former would have been neighbourly and Christian conduct."

Mr. Ballantine then contended that the accused was in a state of 'delusion' at the time, and was not conscious that she was committing theft. He added—

"There is an instance of a well-known legal gentleman taking a knife away from a shop unintentionally, and the morbid delusions and appetites which the state of pregnancy produces upon women are not denied. Women in that condition are guilty of acts for which they really are not responsible; and juries had said in such cases that they were not criminally guilty, because the felonious intention was not present when the act was committed. A morbid affection of the brain produced in some persons one thing, in some another. What I have said of women in a certain condition does not apply to the prisoner. She is a woman advanced in life, and has reached that period of existence when an important constitutional change takes place with women. There were women who, during that change, were in constant nervous excitement; under continual hallucinations, resulting from a morbid affection of the brain, superinduced by the change I have alluded to. It was unintelligible and almost incredible; but yet it was so. A morbid action of the brain does exist, as much as cancer or any other disease."

Mr. Ballantine concluded by some indignant observations upon the conduct of the magistrate who committed his client; and expressed his belief that in that court there would be fairness, judgment, and

honour. An attempt was made to cheer the speech; but it was soon repressed.

The Rev. Dr. Russell, Rev. H. Brown, Rev. Mr. Gibson, Dr. Tweedie, Mr. Lewis, attorney, a number of ladies, and several tradesmen were then called, and they spoke of the prisoner, from a long knowledge of her, as a woman of the highest honour and integrity in all the relations and transactions of life.

The Assistant-Judge, in summing up, dwelt upon the morbid condition of mind to which Mr. Ballantine had alluded as consequent, in women, upon the transitional period mentioned, and which passes away when the constitution is re-established. He also alluded to the strange conditions of mental action to which all persons are subject; and instanced the case of the boy Jones, who, when he got into the Palace, stole nothing but an envelope, a twopenny coin, and a few other trumpery articles, though he might have taken things of great value. It was, however, for the jury to say whether Mrs. Ramsbotham was or was not actuated by a felonious intent:

The jury, after a short deliberation, expressed a wish to retire. They were accordingly locked up for nearly four hours; at the end of which time it appeared they were equally divided with respect to their verdict. They were accordingly dismissed. After a few remarks from the Assistant-Judge, to the effect that there was no imputation upon the conduct of Mr. Moule, and that it would be better if the editors of newspapers would postpone their comments upon criminal cases until after the trial, the prisoner was discharged, and left the court with her friends.

TRIAL AND CONDEMNATION OF BURANELLI.

At the Central Criminal Court on Thursday, Luigi Buranelli, aged thirty-one, was tried for the murder of Joseph Latham, and for shooting at Mary Anne Jeanes. The prisoner pleaded Not Guilty. Upon being asked whether he would be tried by a jury composed half of foreigners, or by one composed entirely of Englishmen, he said he would be tried by an English jury.

The evidence with respect to the murder merely recapitulated the facts which have already come out at the inquest and the police examinations; but in the cross-examination of Mrs. Williamson, the woman with whom the prisoner had for a time cohabited, some curious particulars touching Buranelli's state of mind were given. She said that she went with him one evening to the theatre—

"The piece we saw was the *Corsican Brothers*. The prisoner appeared to be very much delighted when one of the brothers shot a man who had shot his brother, and he said he should like to appear to me after he died, the same as the ghost did in the *Corsican Brothers*. I told him I thought it was very ridiculous for him to talk in such a manner, and that I should not like him to appear to me when he was dead. The prisoner frequently told me that he would shoot himself, and I endeavoured to reason him out of such notions, and spoke of his soul, and that it was very wicked of him to talk in such a manner. He frequently said that since he knew me he had forgotten his child, and he also said he thought that some medical man had injured him. I told him it was nonsense, and that he only imagined such things, and he said he did not. I told the prisoner that he used to read so many operas that he at last fancied he was one of the beings who were in them. He used to say that they were very beautiful. It never occurred to me that he was mad, but I thought he was a man of great imagination. I do not think I ever said to any one that I thought he was mad, but I may have said, in a joke, that I believed he was going out of his mind."

He told me that he had undergone a surgical operation in the country. He frequently complained of pain in his left side, and wet weather appeared to have an effect upon him. The death is not occasioned in the *Corsican Brothers* by shooting but by stabbing, and the ghost of one brother appears to the other. The prisoner made the observation that his ghost should appear to me, in a jocular manner. He always spoke to me in terms of strong attachment. He talked of shooting himself while we were living in Foley-place. The prisoner was jealous of me, not with regard to any particular person, but generally. Hungarians and Italians used to visit the prisoner while he lived in Newman-street. I judged that the prisoner was jealous from his talk, not from his actions; he frequently expressed a fear that I should be intimate with some one else as well as him."

For the defence, several witnesses were called to prove that the prisoner was demented. Some persons who had known him when he lived at Penshurst deposed that after the death of his second wife in childhood in 1854, he became very depressed and strange in his manners. He would weep all day, and talk of committing suicide. He hired a little boy to be with him because he would not be alone. He was continually talking of dying, and would exclaim, "Poor Louis, poor Louis! Many troubles—many troubles!" On one occasion, he asked one of the witnesses to shoot him, and said he thought his doctor had at-

tempted to poison him. He would also talk of having awful dreams. Before the death of his wife, he was a very cheerful inoffensive person. Dr. Butler, the medical man who attended him at Penshurst, said that about three years ago he was suffering from congestion of the liver, and that after the death of his wife he appeared to be oppressed with "melancholia," which the witness explained to be in no way different from melancholy. He was also subject to extraordinary delusions. The woman with whom he lodged after leaving Lambert's house, stated that two or three days before the murder she heard him talking very loudly to himself, and that he frequently complained of pain in his head and heart. One of the nurses at the Middlesex Hospital, where he had been last year, said he insisted upon several occasions that his bed was flooded with water; and Mr. Henry, the assistant-surgeon, stated that he was decidedly of opinion that Buranelli was of unsound mind. In this, Dr. Connolly, who was afterwards called, concurred; but, on the part of the prosecution, Dr. McMurdo, surgeon of Newgate, Dr. Mayer, and Dr. Sutherland disputed that conclusion, and said that Buranelli was suffering from simple hypochondriasis, which would account for his illusions, and that upon examining him they discovered no signs of mental aberration.

The jury returned a verdict of Guilty; and the prisoner was assisted from the dock almost in a fainting state.

OUR CIVILISATION.

ILLEGAL FLOGGING OF BRITISH SEAMEN.—A summons against the owner of the vessel Flora McDonald was obtained at the Mansion House on Saturday. The allegation was to the effect that four of the seamen had been charged with insubordination at Colombo, and had been punished by twelve weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, and the forfeiture of the wages then due to them; and that two more of the men, having been charged with assaulting the master, had been sentenced to hard labour and imprisonment for three months, and to receive twenty lashes on the bare back. The legality of the stoppage of the wages, and of the flogging, was disputed; and, the master not being in England, the summons was applied for against the owner. A further summons was asked for, on the ground of the ship having been sent out with an insufficient quantity of provisions for the voyage, thus leading to the insubordination of the men; but this was for the present refused.

ALLEGED MURDER AT SEA.—John Milligan, master of the Lord Dufferin of Belfast, has been committed for trial at Falmouth, charged with the wilful murder of William Dawson, one of the crew. The ship, it appears, made a good deal of water, and it was necessary to force the crew to work very hard. Some, however, objected; and Dawson being particularly refractory, the captain shot him. The crew then carried the dead body aft, and said they did not like to be shot down like pigs. The captain rejoined that, if they did not go to their work, he would shoot some more of them; upon which they turned to their duty, and worked well for the remainder of the voyage. On cross-examination, one of the witnesses, who had himself been among the refractory seamen, admitted that, if the deceased had not been shot, the vessel would have been lost, as the crew had refused to work.

CRUELTY TO A CHILD.—The *Worcestershire Chronicle* reports a case of shocking cruelty to a child, which has just been brought to light at Stourbridge. The sufferer was a boy, eight years of age, named Henry Edward Henefer. His mother has been dead some time, and his father, Thomas Henefer, has married again. It appears that a sister of the child's mother, having a fear that he was not being properly attended, had applied at the father's house, near the Gig Mill, to see the boy, but had been denied. Last week she went over to Stourbridge again; but her approach was seen and the door locked against her. She threatened, however, to burst it open if refused admittance. With great reluctance, the wife let her in, and she found the poor child reduced to a complete skeleton. She insisted on taking him away, which was refused; but at length the child was rescued by force. The aunt at once informed the police; and the child was brought before the magistrates. A more shocking spectacle of extreme emaciation could not be conceived; it produced a sickening effect upon all present. The child was utterly unable to stand or sit, and was carried in the arms of his aunt. Flesh there was none, and even the bones seem to have shrunk, being smaller than usual in a child of his age. Both his feet were bandaged, several of his toes having rotted away during the late severe weather. The bench ordered the child to be taken to the union, and the master to be brought before the guardians, that they might call the parent and his wife to account. When taken to the union, the child, though eight years old, was found to weigh less than 14 lbs. Extreme weakness prevented him from giving much

information as to his treatment. He has said that for some time past he has been given sometimes a little bread in the course of the day, sometimes a little gruel, and sometimes nothing at all—never what he wanted. This course has been pursued for the last two months. He has further stated that a little one (a neighbour's child) died since he was ill, and that his father made the coffin (there are also rumours of improper treatment in that case), and while doing so told the poor sufferer he wished it was for himself. Hence, the father, was getting good wages. On the child being taken away, and the facts coming out, he left his work, and has not since dared to appear; for, such is the feeling of the men, that, if he had, something in the shape of Lynch-law would certainly have been administered. On Saturday last, he sent for his wages; since which time, both he and his wife have been missing.

MURDEROUS ASSAULTS.—Polly Gallagher, a well-known woman of the town, was brought before the Clerkenwell magistrate on Monday for stabbing a young woman with a table-knife. The injured woman was coming out of a public-house in company with a male friend, when the accused picked a quarrel with the latter, and afterwards turned her wrath upon the woman, and stabbed her in the face. Gallagher also nearly cut the top of the man's finger off. The woman lies in so dangerous a state, that the magistrate found it necessary to remand the prisoner for a week.—On the same day, at Westminster, a bricklayer's labourer was committed for six weeks for biting a publican at Chelsea, and assaulting the policemen who took him into custody. He was drunk; and, having behaved offensively to other customers, the publican attempted to put him out. Upon the arrival of the police, "he bit at them," said the sergeant, "in all directions, like a dog." It required the efforts of three or four men to take his dogship to the station.—At Southwark, a young woman, an inmate of Bermondsey workhouse, was committed for two months for scratching and kicking the clerk to the master. Having taken offence at him, she threw him down and kicked him on the lower parts of his person. She was taken into custody with great difficulty; and it appeared that she had been in charge several times before for assaulting the master, on one occasion with a poker. Her conduct while in the police-court was very violent.—On Tuesday, at Westminster, a porter in Covent Garden Market was sentenced to six months' hard labour for so violent an assault upon his wife that she became insensible, and was conveyed to the hospital. Before the magistrate, the man said that his wife had abused him and torn his shirt; but this was denied. It appeared that her only offence was that she came late from the City, where she had been on business.—At Lambeth, on the same day, William Tyler, a respectable-looking man, was charged with assaulting a police constable. In answer to the charge, he stated, and called a witness to prove, that he had only endeavoured to take the constable's number on account of his having ill-used his (Tyler's) wife; and that for this he was taken into custody. The statement of the wife was, that, as her husband had not come home at a late hour of the night, she went to a neighbouring public-house to seek him; that she there saw two policemen who used the most disgusting language towards her; that, upon quitting them, she met with the policeman who now charged her husband with assault, to whom she complained of the other policemen, calling them "fellows;" and that he was so irritated with this expression, that he made a ferocious assault upon her, threatened to kill her if she did not go on fast, and used the most filthy and violent language. Upon getting away from him, she ran home, found that her husband had returned, and went out again with him to seek for her assailant. The scene then took place which led to the present complaint. When before the magistrate, the woman's face was frightfully disfigured from recent injuries. The magistrate said the constable was not justified in taking the man into custody; and, as for the alleged misconduct of the police, the charge was so serious that it must be investigated by the commissioners.—It must be recollected that these assaults are only a selection from those which have come before the magistrates in the course of the week; but as the others belong to the same genus, the foregoing will sufficiently exemplify the present state of "Our Civilisation."

FORGERY BY A BOY.—An errand-boy has been charged before the magistrates at Devonport with forging the name of John Elliott to a bill, and afterwards cashing the bill at a shop in the town. The amount was forty pounds; and, from the evidence of a friend of the prisoner, also a boy, it appears that the accused, upon getting the money, left his place of business, and in company with several youthful companions, whom he treated, went to fairs, eating-houses, &c., bargained for a gun, amused himself with shooting in the fields (first at the witness's hat, and then at a dead dog), and pursued for a brief time the career of a boy of pleasure. He was remanded until Saturday (to-day).

SPEECHES OF PUBLIC MEN.

In the recess of Parliament, several of our public men have been addressing large audiences in different parts of the country. On Thursday week, speeches were delivered by Mr. Bright at Manchester, and by Mr. Layard at Aberdeen—the latter on the occasion of his installation as Lord Rector of the Marischal College and University, to which he had been elected by a large majority of the students.

MR. LAYARD AT ABERDEEN.

After a few preliminary compliments and thanks, Mr. Layard referred to the all-engrossing topic of the present day—our Crimean disasters, and mentioned, as one of the causes, "the reckless manner in which merit is overlooked in public employments, and passed over to satisfy private and party interests and influences"—a reference which has been supposed to imply some degree of personal feeling. Mr. Layard, however, said he did not wish to dwell upon this subject; and he therefore passed on to what he conceived to be another cause of our recent calamities, viz., the defective condition of our national education. On this topic, he judiciously observed:—

"I believe that our present system of education is rather directed to the overcharging of the memory than to the true cultivation of the intellect and strengthening and discipline of the mind—that it is leading us to treat men as mere machines, rather than as reflecting, responsible beings. Only a few nights since, I listened to an able and conclusive statement, from one of the most distinguished members of the House of Commons, supported by undoubted evidence, proving that, in the number of children receiving education, as compared with the entire population, we are far behind almost every country in Europe. Still, it is not the quantity, but the quality of our education to which I now wish to direct your special attention. The mind may be as much cramped by too much knowledge—if knowledge is to consist of the mere acquisition of isolated facts—as by ignorance. For our village schools we are training teachers to be superficially acquainted with almost every department of human learning. The examinations to which they are subjected, before being pronounced by Government fit to undertake the charge of children of the humblest classes of society, would have been considered, but half a century ago, almost too severe a test for the master of a public school. These teachers impart to their pupils, according to fixed rules, and in certain prescribed portions, instruction as multifarious and superficial as that which they have received. The memory of the child is charged with an endless variety of facts, which, although succeeding each other in regular rotation, have no logical connexion—excite in him no sympathy or interest, lead to no practical result, can be of no use to him in after life—and which, consequently, are, for the most part, speedily forgotten. I never lose an opportunity of visiting a village school, and I have rarely spoken to a teacher of good sense and honesty who has not confessed and complained to me that he has been taught too many things, and none sufficiently well. I have listened with surprise to the examination of children of tender years, destined to follow the callings of their parents in humble life, and have felt somewhat humiliated when their instructor, turning to me, has asked me whether I had any further questions to put to his pupils. They had long outstripped me. There really seemed nothing left within my knowledge that I could ask them. This remarkable proficiency led me to deep reflection and inquiry, and I soon found that this readiness and apparent knowledge, which had so much surprised me, were but feats of memory, or mere tricks, enabling the children to answer difficult questions, but which, unconnected with any logical process of the reason, left them, when once forgotten, in their original state of ignorance. Whilst these children could thus solve very difficult problems, they were unable to reply to the most simple questions when thrown entirely upon the exercise of their own intelligence and reason. Their memory had been highly cultivated, but their reasoning powers had been totally neglected. The end, therefore, of education had not been attained. The same observations apply to examinations as tests for public employment."

Again referring to our Crimean disasters, Mr. Layard remarked that public men look upon themselves as parts of a machine, and thus ease their consciences of the burden of individual responsibility; and, alluding to his investigations at Nineveh, he said that he had learned amid the graves of dead empires many lessons for our own country and time. He observed that no man, however proud of his native land, could deny that we have fallen from our high estate; and he believed that the great want of the age is in earnest and true-hearted spirits, imbued with a sense of the solemnity of life and with a deep feeling of religious responsibility.

Mr. Layard was afterwards entertained at a *déjeuner* given by Messrs. Hall and Co., ship-builders, on the occasion of the launch of the Aberdeen clipper, Schomberg, which was christened by the new Lord Rector. In the brief speech which he made, he highly complimented Mr. McKay of Liverpool, who was then present, and who, it will be

remembered, undertook to supply our troops in the East with rations at a very low cost.

MR. BRIGHT AT MANCHESTER.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Peace Society at Manchester, Mr. Bright made one of his accustomed anti-war speeches, which was chiefly remarkable for the increased appearance of confidence with which it was uttered, as though the speaker felt that the opinions of his party now possess a greater weight of public sympathy at their back than they could boast a few months ago. Mr. Bright evidently thinks—whether rightly or wrongly—that the tide is beginning to turn. After expressing the shame which he felt, and which he believed most sensible people must feel, in the recent policy of this country, he made an attack on Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, whom he depicted as a very irritable man with a feeling of direct personal hostility to the late Czar, owing to the Emperor having refused to receive him as ambassador some twenty years ago. Mr. Bright also described the English Minister at Vienna as totally incompetent; and our Government, he said, is made up almost entirely of lords. But he added that he had never been a party to concentrating the indignation of the people in the mismanagement of the war, because he considered the war itself much more execrable. Nevertheless, though so violently disapproving of the contest, Mr. Bright blamed the Government for choosing old men for commanders, as they are unable to carry on hostilities with vigour. He then denied that the Russians have shut up the Danube; and asserted that the Russian fleet in the Black Sea before the war did not consist of more than six sea-worthy ships, and that Russia now says, in effect, "England and France may, if they like, maintain ships of war in the Black Sea, which shall keep watch upon ours in Sebastopol, and take care we do not engage in those felonious attempts upon Turkey with which we are unjustly charged." Mr. Bright, however, said that Turkey "naturally objects" to English and French ships of war passing through the Bosphorus in order to enter the Black Sea. He then made the astounding assertion that "it is not the interest of Russia to embroil herself with the nations of Europe, and that the treaties which she has made with this country have been kept as faithfully as treaties generally are." He concluded a long speech, which was received with much applause, by remarking that domestic improvement and reform had been stopped by the war, and that, in the course of a few nights, the country has been burdened with nearly forty millions of additional taxation.

MR. BOUVERIE ON HIS RE-ELECTION FOR KILMARNOCK.

Mr. E. P. Bouverie, having accepted the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade, vacated his seat for Kilmarnock, but was on Saturday last re-elected without opposition. In the course of his address, Mr. Bouverie was interrupted by the braying of a donkey; upon which he humorously said, amid much laughter, "It seems I am to have a rival, after all." He attributed our Crimean disasters to the imperfections of our military system, and descended upon the bravery and patience exhibited by the troops. Referring to the bill for the abolition of the newspaper stamp, he observed:—

"I must say that, of all the marvellous things which this age has produced, I wonder at nothing more than that wonderful thing, a newspaper. Take one of our great London morning papers—you find recorded there the events which have taken place in every corner of the globe; and you find not only this, but you find the wants of every man detailed by means of advertisements. You find statements that have been made and opinions offered by the best and wisest heads in the country. You find there the writings of the most profound thinkers of the day; and all this published every twenty-four hours, and circulated over the length and breadth of the country. I look upon all this as no mean advantage; and I think that the greater freedom we can give to a system which yields such vast results even when restricted, the greater would be the boon to the community at large."

In answer to a person in the crowd, Mr. Bouverie said he had voted against Mr. Roebuck's Committee, because he thought the motion was an indirect attempt to upset the late Government, which he did not conceive was guilty; and because the House of Commons had no constitutional right to interfere in the management of the war.

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

THE BALTIC FLEET left the Downs on Monday. At five A.M., the signal was made to get steam up, and shorten in their cables, which was at once obeyed; and at ten minutes to six, the signal to weigh was made. The Nile led the van, and the other ships in succession followed in two lines. The weather was rainy, and persons on shore could not discern the fleet very far.

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS takes place almost daily at the principal ports for the Crimea. The Peninsular and Oriental new ship Alma arrived at Portsmouth on Sun-

day evening from Liverpool, to embark upwards of 1000 of the Brigade of Guards, a large detachment of Royal Engineers and Miners, and sundry officers and men for passage to the seat of war. She is a splendid ship, 2500 tons register, 500-horse power, 317 feet over all, 40 feet beam, and 30 feet depth in hold; and can accommodate 1450 troops, besides the ship's company, &c. Various other vessels have left, or are about to leave, with infantry, cavalry, and horses.

The DUKE OF WELLINGTON (flag ship of Admiral Dundas) has been obliged to return to Spithead from the Downs, to effect repairs of the damages she sustained by getting into collision with the American emigrant ship George Hurlbert, on the night of the 4th inst., about six hours after leaving Portsmouth.

RECRUITING FOR THE CRIMEA IN AMERICA.—The efforts of the English Government to obtain recruits among the British and German settlers in the United States have met with great opposition. The district attorney for New York has issued a notification, stating that the act is a breach of the neutrality laws, and that all persons attempting such enlistment are liable to fine and imprisonment.

MILITIA DISTURBANCE AT GUILDFORD.—The militia stationed at Guildford has given another instance of the working of the "fifty-six days" breach of faith. The 1852 men, having for some time been informed that they were to be disbanded, were suddenly told that they were to await further orders. They, therefore, refused to enter the parade-ground; but were at length driven by other detachments at the point of the bayonet, some few being injured. Orders have since arrived for the dismissal of those entitled to their discharge; and, in consequence, 427 out of 576 have left.

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.—The new screw steamship, North Carolina, from Philadelphia, left for Liverpool on the 4th of February last, but put back on the 18th, with the blades of her propeller broken, and having sprung a leak. She had encountered very severe gales, and shipped heavy seas. Having undergone the necessary repairs, she resailed under the command of Captain Washington Symmes on the 21st ult., and had progressed very favourably until her arrival in the Channel, when, on Sunday morning, at half-past one o'clock, she was run into by the ship Robert, Captain Stagg, which left Liverpool for New Orleans on the 5th inst., about thirty miles west of Tuskar Light. The ship struck her on the port side, forward of the fore-rigging, causing her to fill immediately; and she sank in about ten minutes. The captain and twenty-one of the crew were taken on board the Robert, and brought back to Liverpool. The remainder (eleven men) were seen in the boats alongside another ship, at daylight. Beyond the loss of her cutter, the ship sustained little or no damage.

SEVERE GALE AND LOSS OF LIFE IN THE ATLANTIC.—The American ship John Rutledge arrived at Liverpool on Friday week, from New York, having suffered severe damage, and lost two seamen overboard during the gale of the 10th ult. The following is from the report of Captain Sands:—"Left New York March 9, in company with the Hendrik Hudson, for London (which sprang a leak in the same gale, and was abandoned on the 12th ult.); and on the 10th the ship was thrown on her beam-ends by shifting of the cargo. Wind NNW. to NW., blowing a heavy gale. The cargo shifting so much, she became unmanageable. Three feet water in the hold, and two feet in the between decks. The crew and passengers were engaged in pumping and baling out water, in order to free her as soon as the gale abated. When they were able to get the hatches off, they went down to the hold, and commenced throwing out cargo. After throwing overboard about two hundred barrels of spirit of turpentine, and some tar and logwood, they succeeded in righting the ship. Lost two men overboard in the gale. During the latter part of the voyage there was very unsettled weather—equally, with variable winds and much rain."

THE ABERDEEN CLIPPER, SCHOMBERG.—The following account of this vessel, which Mr. Layard has lately christened, appears in the morning papers:—"The Schomberg is the largest vessel ever built in Great Britain. It belongs to what is well known as the 'Aberdeen clipper-build'—that is to say, it possesses great length in proportion to breadth of beam and depth of hold, with a sharp entrance, and fine run aft. In this respect, the Schomberg may be regarded as the perfection of Aberdeen clippers. Her dimensions are as follow:—Length over all, 288 feet; extreme breadth, 45 feet; depth of hold, 29 feet. Her tonnage in 2400 new measurement, and 2600 hold, per register; from 3500 up to 4000 tons burthen. The Schomberg will be fitted up as a passenger ship, having three decks, with poop and forecastle. Altogether, it is calculated that there will be accommodation on board for 1000 souls. The vessel has been named after Captain Schomberg, R.N., the chief government emigration agent at Liverpool, according to whose plans all the arrangements bearing on the comfort of passengers have been carried out."

A BISHOP PREACHING IN PRISON.—The Bishop of Epsom has preached a sermon in the chapel of the Leeds gaol. After the usual evening service had been read by the chaplain, and the prisoners had chanted a hymn, the Bishop delivered his discourse, which (affirms the *Leeds Intelligencer*) he did with such affectionate earnestness and simplicity, that he drew tears from the eyes

even of the men. The demeanour of the prisoners was in the highest degree decent and attentive; and the effect of the scene was very impressive. It is by such plain, honest wrestlings with the spiritual necessities of repulsive, outcast vice, in its naked wretchedness, that our bishops may earn for themselves some better title than wealth and high position to the respectful consideration of the world.

THE LOSS OF THE TIGER.—A court-martial is being held at Portsmouth to inquire into this unfortunate affair; but as the whole of the evidence has not yet been taken the result is not yet known.

THE ADVANCED SQUADRON of the Baltic fleet entered the Kattegat and sighted the island of Anholt on the 31st ult. A separation was then ordered to ascertain the state of the ice in various directions. The harbour of Elsinore was found to be completely blocked up, and the ships experienced some rough usage from the floe or drift-ice. The harbour of Wingo Sound was not to be entered on account of the ice. Kiel harbour, at the latest advices, was blocked up, and the Belts were full of ice; but the Sound was pretty clear, though it was thought by the pilots that for several days the violence of the floes would defy the strongest steam-power.

DEPARTURE OF GUARDS FOR THE CRIMEA.—At half-past seven o'clock on Thursday morning 1126 of the Guards started by the South-Western Railway for the Crimea.

THE HALFPENNY NEWSPAPER STAMP.

On Thursday last a meeting of the Provincial Newspaper Society was held in London, Mr. Baxter, of the *Sussex Express*, president of the society, in the chair, at which the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it would be highly conducive to the interests of the public, and to that of the newspaper proprietors, that the stamp duty on newspapers, to entitle them to transmission and retransmission through the post-office, should be a *halfpenny*, instead of a penny, and they are convinced that it would yield a greater amount to the revenue." The resolution was presented to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the course of the same day, by a deputation consisting of Mr. Baxter, the president of the Provincial Newspaper Society, Mr. Johnson Gedge (*Bury Post*), Mr. Austin (*Maidstone Journal*), Mr. R. Johnson (*Worcester Journal*), Mr. E. Baines (*Leeds Mercury*), Mr. Kemplay (*Leeds Intelligencer*), and Mr. Hobson (*Leeds Times*).

STATE OF TRADE, LABOUR, AND THE POOR.

The accounts of the state of trade in the manufacturing towns (says the *Times*, in a City Article) exhibit, with the exception of the iron districts, a tendency to improvement. At Manchester, the business transacted has been on a larger scale than for some time past, and prices, especially for yarns, have become firm. At Birmingham, great heaviness still prevails, the only support of the market for manufactured iron being from a moderate home demand. The strike among the colliers against the recent reduction of wages continues to be extensively maintained. The Nottingham report shows a great increase of activity in the lace trade, many home and foreign orders having been received, while in the hosiery branches also there is increased confidence. In the woollen districts, the gradual signs of revival reported during the past month are still observable; and the same is the case in the Irish linen markets. In the business of the port of London there has been increased activity, owing to the change of wind, which has enabled many of the weather-bound vessels to work up.

The quarter's revenue for Dublin has been:—

April 5, 1854	£184,129
— 1855	184,428
Increase.....	£299

In this, as well as the following comparisons, it must be borne in mind that, in consequence of making up the accounts to the 31st of March in place of the 5th of April, both year and quarter are five days short.

The revenue for the year is 899,587, against 894,596, in 1854. In tea there was an increase of 7829L, notwithstanding the reduction of duty; in sugar, an increase of 19,280L, owing, of course, to the additional 15 per cent.; and in almost every other article a decrease.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the *Registrar-General's Report*.)

The deaths of 1226 persons were registered in the week that ended last Saturday. The corrected average of deaths that occurred in the corresponding weeks of 1845-54 is 1253. These figures are satisfactory evidence of an improved state of the public health. The mortality, which has for many weeks been excessive, showed a decrease last week on the ordinary amount; but the mortality from bronchitis, and also from hooping-cough, is still great.

Last week, the births of 828 boys and 689 girls, in all 1511 children, were registered in London. In the ten

corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1494.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.881 in. The mean temperature was 41.9 deg. which is 2.2 deg. below the average. Monday was remarkably cold, and the mean daily temperature was below the average till Friday and Saturday, on which days it was 6 deg. above it.

In the 18 weeks of severe weather that ended on the 31st of March, 19,627 deaths were registered, or, in excess of the average, nearly 4000 persons in advanced age, weakly children, the sufferers from chronic diseases, and others, who when the winter set in were in sound health. Congestion and inflammation of the lungs were the most prevalent fatal diseases.

The zymotic diseases prevailed generally; but no deaths from smallpox happened in 46 sub-districts, no death from measles in 45 sub-districts. Hooping-cough and scarlatina were the most fatal epidemics, and their poison was the most equally diffused over the metropolis. Diarrhoea lay chiefly in the low west and south districts, where fever also prevailed, but not so fatally as in the east districts. 3938 persons died in the public institutions of London—namely, 2567 in workhouses, 1195 in civil and military hospitals, 186 in lunatic asylums, and 10 in prisons. 20 in every 100 of the deaths occurred in the public institutions; in Paris the proportion in 1853 was 39 in 100.

The number of persons in London of the age of 20 and upwards, was 632,545 in 1851; and the deaths among men of those ages were 4955; so that the mortality was at the rate of 31 in 1000 annually, or 8 quarterly.

THE VISIT OF THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND EMPRESS.

The *Morning Herald* of Thursday says that it has the best authority for the following programme of the approaching visit:—

"Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French will arrive at Windsor, by the Great Western Railway, at six o'clock next Monday evening. They will be received by a guard of honour composed of the 94th Regiment of the Line, a company of the Foot Guards, and a detachment of the Rifle Brigade.

"The Mayor of Windsor will have the honour of receiving their Majesties on their arrival at the terminus.

"On emerging from the railway station, their Imperial Majesties will pass through a triumphal arch erected at the junction between Thames-street and High-street. There will also be another triumphal arch, erected in Castle-street, under which the Royal carriages will pass.

"The Castle-green, immediately beneath the Castle walls, opposite to the establishment of Mr. Layton, confectioner to the Queen, will be furnished with thousands of seats, which will extend as far as Henry the Eighth's gate, for the accommodation of the public—tickets being previously granted by the committee.

"On the arrival of the Emperor and Empress at the Castle, they will be received at the grand entrance by her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince Consort.

"On Tuesday next the mayor and corporation, in their official robes, will present an address of congratulation to the Emperor Napoleon III., and afterwards participate in a public dinner of the inhabitants, to be given at the Town Hall.

"There will be state dinners at the Castle on every evening after the Emperor's arrival; and, subsequently to the investiture of his Imperial Majesty with the Order of the Garter, on Wednesday, a magnificent banquet will be given, at which the *élite* of the kingdom will be present. There will also be a review of the whole of the household troops.

"The preparations at the Castle are by no means complete, no less than three hundred workmen being still engaged. It is supposed that the visit of the Emperor and Empress will be the grandest affair ever witnessed at Windsor since the installation of his Grace the Duke of Rutland, in the year 1805—just half a century since."

From other sources we learn that on Thursday the Court will come to London, and, in company with their Imperial visitors, will proceed in state to the Italian Opera; that on Friday it is expected they will visit the Crystal Palace, and exhibit themselves on the balcony to the people in the gardens; and that on Saturday the Emperor and Empress will return to Paris. It is thought that the freedom of the City will be conferred on the Emperor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

COLONEL SIBTHORP AND THE SOUTH-LINCOLNSHIRE MILITIA.—Colonel Sibthorpe attended at the Clerkenwell police-court on Saturday last, to give some explanations with respect to the statements of the three South-Lincolnshire militia-men who had applied for relief a day or two previously. The Colonel said he was so astonished at the allegations, that he applied at the War Office, and ascertained that a communication had been sent to the Lieutenant-General; and he himself sent a private letter. He added that he was sure the ac-

count had been inserted in the *Times* for the sake of "villifying" him, and that he would resist the proceedings of "a licentious press." He had always, he said, treated his men with the utmost kindness, and had spent between three and four thousand pounds out of his own pocket in providing extra comforts.—Mr. Corrie, the magistrate, having calmed the Colonel's wrath against the "licentious press" by pointing out that the obnoxious paragraph was only a report of proceedings which had actually taken place, and not an editorial comment, stated that he had received a letter from the Lieutenant-Colonel of the South-Lincolnshire Militia, from which it appeared that the opinion of the War Office had been sought with respect to paying the passage-money of the men, but that the recent complainants had refused to wait until that opinion was obtained. The authority for the payment having been since received, the passage-money had in all subsequent cases been allowed; and the sum disbursed from the Clerkenwell poor-box would be returned.—Neither the Colonel nor Mr. Corrie appeared to be aware that the report did not appear exclusively in the *Times*, but in the other papers as well.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—A Swedish *savant*, Professor Edlund, of the Royal Academy of Sciences, succeeded last year in making an improvement in the construction of the electric telegraph apparatus, by which it becomes possible to send messages by the same wire simultaneously in two opposite directions. The principle on which this discovery is based is very simple, and altogether different from that applied by Dr. Ganti, at Vienna, which was found not to succeed. As far back as the month of August last, Professor Edlund made some experiments on the wires of the telegraph line between Stockholm and Upsala, by permission of the directors. These succeeded so well that he constructed the necessary apparatus, which was put up in December last, and has been in daily operation ever since. As soon as the apparatus are constructed, they are to be introduced at every telegraph station in the kingdom; and, as the alteration is not expensive, the advantages gained over the old system are obvious, as one line of wire will now do the work done formerly by two.—*Daily News*.

THE RUSSIAN PRISONERS ON GOOD FRIDAY.—The Emperor of Russia remitted through the Swedish Embassy a sum sufficient to give every prisoner in the Lewes Gaol 6d. each for hot cross-buns.—*Sussex Express*.

METROPOLITAN OVERCROWDING.—The rector of one of the most populous parishes to the north of the City has published an Essay "On the Erection of Fire-proof Houses in flats," in which he says there has been in his parish an addition of 1000 to the previous population of 4000, owing to the poorer classes, driven out by the recent improvements in other parts of London, having settled there. He states that honest workmen have been obliged, from sheer want of space, to herd with the outcasts of Field-lane, &c.; and that great evils have arisen from the want of proper dwellings for the poor. The fault, we conceive, lies in always building hand-some, first-class streets upon the sites of the demolished "slums."

MR. ERNEST JAMES AUGUSTUS FITZROY, who recently made himself notorious in connexion with certain riotous proceedings at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, has been sentenced to four months' imprisonment at Chichester for uttering forged cheques. The Recorder stated that Mr. Fitzroy had commenced life in a very vicious manner, though under the cloak of religion; and it appears that he is still liable to prosecution upon other charges of forgery. The first and last weeks of his imprisonment will be solitary confinement. Mr. Fitzroy, it is said, will, on attaining his majority next June, be entitled to 24,000/. But it seems he could not wait for this.

A GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION, by which four children have been dreadfully burned, has taken place at an oil and colour warehouse in James-street, Covent-garden. A boy was sprinkling some powder from a flask upon the fire, when the contents of the flask exploded, forcing out the windows, destroying the ceiling, and setting fire to the children's clothes. The sufferers were removed to Charing-Cross Hospital in a very precarious state.

LORD DUNDONALD no longer intends offering his secret to the French Emperor, since, as His Majesty has given up his design of going to the Crimea, he fears that the plan might fail for want of a sufficiently expanded mind to carry it into effect.

IRISH EMIGRATION.—The "Exodus" from Ireland, still continues at a very great rate, notwithstanding the attempts made by the priests to prevent the people going to America, which has fallen into great disfavour in consequence of the "Know-nothing" agitation. A paper which is supposed to speak the sentiments of John of Tuam observes:—"While the Irish Catholic race was treated with kindness in America, we never uttered a word of remonstrance or warning; but, now that all parties agree in complaining of the dreadful persecutions which await them from all the powers of 'Know-Nothingism' in the hitherto boasted land of liberty, we feel it our imperative duty to raise our voice in protest and reclamation. Bad as home is, and cold as is the prospect that awaits our people under a system of laws that obstinately refuse security for tenant industry, it is better to remain and battle with the ills they know than fly to others of a more revolting kind. A quiet death in the old land of the saints, with the aid of religious

consolation in that awful hour, is better than contact with the awful demoralisation and almost total absence of religious comforts which await the emigrant beyond the Atlantic." The Irish Roman Catholics now look upon Canada as the land where all creeds and classes may enjoy equal liberty, although under the "upas-tree" of English rule.

EARLY CLOSING ASSOCIATION.—A document put forth by this Society, states that it was formed in 1842. That, previous to its establishment, the hours of employment in nearly every department of industrial life were excessive; in many cases almost incredibly so: for instance, it was a very common practice for the linendrapers to keep their shops open during a large portion of the year till eleven and twelve o'clock at night, it being often one, and sometimes even two o'clock, before the assistants were really free. On Sunday mornings they not unfrequently were kept at work till three, four, and even five o'clock, and numerous have been the instances of young men, instead of retiring to bed, preferring going off to bathe, it being broad daylight when they left their respective shops. That, through the agency of the Early Closing Association, the hours of employment in many departments of business have already been materially curtailed. That this Society, often in the face of much discouragement, continues steadfastly to labour in this cause of social progress and humanity. That the efforts of the Board are at the present time more particularly directed to the case of the Assistant Chemists, whose hours of employment extend, for the most part, from about seven o'clock in the morning till half-past ten or eleven o'clock at night, with a liability, moreover, to their being called up at any hour in the night, and without being able to call so much as the Sabbath their own. That it is proposed long to draw attention to the condition of that sadly oppressed class—the Journeyman Bakers. And that the Society at present stands greatly in need of funds." The object of the Society is excellent; and we trust it may procure the money assistance it requires.

THE ANNUAL VISIT OF THE BLUECOAT BOYS TO THE LORD MAYOR took place, as usual, on Easter Tuesday, on which occasion the Duke of Cambridge was present, his arrival being signalled by the band of the City of London Militia playing the National Anthem, which was afterwards sung by the boys in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor having briefly addressed the boys, and the presentation of buns, wine, and money having taken place, the company separated, and his Lordship, the Duke of Cambridge, and several of the aldermen proceeded in procession to Christ Church, to hear the Spital Sermon preached. The Duke of Cambridge, on entering the Lord Mayor's carriage, was loudly cheered by the people.

MISS EMILIE GORDON.—A letter with respect to this person, whose shocking treatment of her pony we noticed last week, appears in the *Times* of Wednesday, under the signature of "A Neighbour to Miss Gordon." The writer, whose communication is drawn forth by some editorial comments on the case, asserts that Miss Gordon is not accountable for her actions, and that she ought to be placed under personal restraint; adding that "her vagaries have too long continued to be alternately the jest, the scandal, and the terror of the neighbourhood in which she resides. I have not the least doubt that the mania, of which her savage treatment of the pony was only one manifestation, has been developing itself in her mind for years past, and is making rapid advances towards a highly-dangerous stage."

A HARD CASE.—Two women, wives of seamen taken prisoners by the Russians, applied on Monday at the Lambeth police-court for assistance. The men had gone out in a military transport hired by Government; and, until their capture, the wives had received from Mr. Ferguson, owner of the vessel, a certain sum per month; but this was now stopped. The poor women had applied at the office of the Lloyd's Patriotic Fund; but received for answer, that, as they were not widows, nor their children orphans, relief could not be extended to them. Under these circumstances, the magistrate gave them 10s. each from the poor-box; and it is to be hoped that their case will be considered by the charitable and affluent. The women stated that they had letters from their husbands, who said that they had lost all their property, but that the Russians treated them kindly.

THE EASTER BANQUET AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—This yearly festival took place on Monday, and was chiefly remarkable for the presence of the Duke of Cambridge, and the absence of all the ministers except the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In order to do honour to the Duke, the streets from Temple Bar were lined with militia-men, who also formed a guard in the vestibule of the Mansion House. The after-dinner speeches were of the usual routine character.

THE LONDON SUBSCRIPTION for the sufferers by the floods in Holland, on the 6th ult., which destroyed 5000 dwellings in various villages, has amounted to 1233L, and the committee have made a fresh appeal, with the hope that it may yet be increased.

ACCIDENTAL POISONING.—Six persons have been poisoned at Cardigan, by partaking of some broth into which oatmeal that had been mixed with arsenic, for the purpose of killing rats, had been put. One of the sufferers died in a few hours; and the others are still in a very precarious state.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND THE LOWMAN COMMUNION.—The Court of Common Council has unanimously agreed to present an address to the Emperor of the French upon his visit to London, and to request that he will "honour the City with his presence" at a grand entertainment in the Guildhall.

REMARKABLE SUICIDE.—In the neighbourhood of Marlborough, a man recently cut his throat in a house, rushed into the public thoroughfare, threw himself over a low garden wall, and shortly afterwards died. The body was found in the garden, with the head nearly severed from the body. No motive for the act could be assigned.

RAISING OF A SHIP AT GRAVESEND.—The Prussian barque Samuel, of Dantzig, which was sunk in the fathoms water off Coal-house Point on the morning of the 8th of March, after coming in collision with the Westmoreland, has been successfully raised within the present week by Mr. Bell, of Whitstable, the well-known diver.

THE MILITIA.—The rapid collapse of the militia, owing to the secession of the men who enlisted previous to the last act, continues in the greater number of the regiments, and the force is reduced to a mere skeleton. It is feared that recourse must be had to the belief in re-creating it. In the Warwickshire Militia, however, large numbers of the men have come forward for re-attestation; and in some of the other regiments several of the members have volunteered for the line.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE COMMISSARIAT.—The commissariat officers in the Crimea have addressed a letter to Mr. Fidler, which they request he will lay before Lord Panmure, and in which they indignantly deny an assertion made by Lord Palmerston in Parliament, that they do not belong to the class called "gentry," and that they have been "wanting in capacity, energy, intelligence, and in the accurate and zealous performance of their duty." The officers signifying this letter describe Lord Palmerston's remark as "a most unjust and unfounded imputation;" assert their claim to be considered gentlemen; and contend that they have performed their duties to the utmost of their power.

THE CAVAN ELECTION.—This election, which is usual in Ireland, has been signalled by scenes of disgraceful riot, has terminated in an immense majority for Mr. Burrowes, the Derbyshire candidate.

EASTER MONDAY.—Easter Monday, the grand holiday of the masses, was this year rendered doubly agreeable by fine weather; and the Cockneys came out in all their glory in their traditional Greenwich Park. We have elsewhere noticed the Easter productions at the theatres; but we may here note that the British Museum, the National Gallery, Marlborough House, the Vernon Collection, and other receptacles of objects of science and art were thronged with visitors. Between 8000 and 9000 persons attended at the Crystal Palace; but the working classes did not muster very strong. The uneducated still prefer the booths, gingerbread, and confectionery of Greenwich.

SCANDAL IN HIGH LIFE.—We quote the following from a contemporary:—"If it were not the most wretched of delicacy to use further disguise regarding the event which has formed for some days past, perhaps, the principal subject of conversation in society, the position of Mr. Francis Villiers as a member of Parliament would justify that open reference which cannot be long postponed. Without speaking more minutely of the unfortunate affair, we may state that it is of a character to create a vacancy in the representation of Rochester. On learning the circumstances alluded to, Mr. Villiers' Tory supporters, we are told by the *South-Eastern Gazette*, had a meeting, at which a deputation was appointed to wait on the hon. gentleman and call upon him to resign his seat." Everything had been arranged for the departure of the deputation to London, when it occurred to one of them more sagacious than the rest, 'that the difficulty was where to find him'; and, this remark taking every one by surprise, the 'deputation' broke up in disgust." Mr. Villiers' supporters are said to amount to considerably upwards of 100,000; and it is understood that several persons of high rank are connected with him in very questionable proceedings.

A GREAT CONFLAGRATION has taken place at Malling-stone. It broke out in an inn standing at the corner of the market; and, the structure being old, and of wood, and containing necessarily a large amount of spirits, the fire rapidly gained head, and was communicated to the adjacent buildings. The firemen were aided by a body of cavalry and militia; but a large number of civilians present refused to lend any help, because they should not be paid for their services. There was a great deficiency of water for the engines: nevertheless, after great exertions, the fire was got under. The loss, it is thought, will be between 3000L and 4000L; but the sufferers are insured.

DR. ANDREW SMITH has delivered into the Sebastopol Committee copies of certain official letters written by him, from which it appears that he anticipated many of the evils of the Crimean campaign. In April, 1854, Dr. Smith suggested that the dresses of the soldiers should be accommodated to the climate of the East and to the necessities of warfare. He also suggested the formation of a hospital corps, 800 strong at the least, to be raised immediately on the arrival of the army in Turkey; and

well as the providing properly-constituted transports for the sick and wounded, and hospital-ships. The letters containing these suggestions were superscribed "Pressing and immediate;" but it is needless to say that the places recommended were not carried out.

EDUCATION AMONG JURYMEN.—A parliamentary return just published shows that, in Hertfordshire in 1851, there were 422 coroners' inquests; in 1852, 466; and in 1853, 577; and that in the three years just specified, 185, 294, and 112 jurors were unable to sign their names. The proportion is much larger in Gloucestershire, where, in 1851, 422 inquests were held; in 1852, 466; and in 1853, 527; while in the first-mentioned year, 1260; in 1852, 1188; and in 1853, 855 jurors had a mark opposite their names. In the borough of Hereford during 1851, 1852, and 1853, there were altogether 56 inquests, and the gratifying fact appears that all the jurors were able to write.

Mr. JOSEPH RICHARDSON, the inventor of the instruments of the Rock, Bell, and Steel Band, died on Sunday last, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, April 14.

GOVERNMENT LOAN.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has transmitted the following notice to the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England, as a medium of communication with the Stock Exchange:—

"Treasury Chambers, April 12, 1855.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to inform you, and request that you will make it known in the usual manner, that Lord Palmerston and I shall be ready to see any gentlemen who may be desirous of contracting for a loan for the service of the present year, on Monday next, the 16th instant, at one o'clock, in order to inform them of the amount which will be wanted, and to fix the time and the manner of the bidding; and I hope it will be convenient to you, or one of you, to meet these gentlemen here at that hour.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

"Your obedient, humble servant,

"G. CORNEWALL LEWIS.

"The Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England."

THE CONFERENCES.

The *Wanderer* of Vienna of the 7th says:—

"M. Drouyn de Lhuys was presented this day by Count Buol to the Emperor, and the audience lasted upwards of an hour. The honourable Minister is to dine with his Majesty to-morrow. All the members of the Conference, with the exception of the Russians, have had long conferences with the French Minister. He has brought with him a paper on the Eastern question, drawn up by the Emperor Napoleon, and it is to be laid before the Congress. The first interview between M. Drouyn de Lhuys and Count Buol did not last less than five hours, and he had immediately afterwards a long conversation with Lord Westmoreland."

Persons who can speak English, together with the Danish, Swedish, or Russian tongues, are greatly needed for the Baltic Fleet, as interpreters.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid says, that in *casas* there has been put down by the militia, and that fifteen of the agitators have been arrested.

THE WAR.

Marseille, Thursday.

The news from Sebastopol comes down to the 30th of March. Conferences had taken place between the Generals and Admirals. The Russians had made more sorties, which had all been repulsed. They continued their fire, particularly on the side of the Quarantine and the Malakoff Tower. Several fires had broken out in Sebastopol. The Russians were fortifying themselves on the side of the Stevernaia Fort, and were arming new batteries.

Trieste, Thursday.

We have intelligence from Constantinople to the 2nd of April. It was thought that all the allied fleet would soon sail for Sebastopol, in order to co-operate in the general attack.

Vienna, Thursday Evening.

According to a telegraphic despatch from the Crimea, dated April 1, the allied armies were quite ready to open their fire upon Sebastopol.

Balaklava, March 31.

The Russians have constructed two new batteries, and have converted the ambuscades into an advanced parallel. The Allies have also constructed two new batteries. The weather was not so fine; it was very cold. Of seven Russian admirals at Sebastopol, at the commencement of the siege, two only now remain.

King, the ex-detective, has been found guilty of inciting boys to steal, and has been sentenced to fourteen years' transportation.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DE ARNOLD

ARE WE TO HAVE AN ARISTOCRACY?

The *Times* has found it profitable of late to write hard against aristocratic jobs. Most edifying to the liberal mind are its diatribes on this subject. Not a baronet's cousin can get a place but it is down on him. The severity is such that we feel inclined to cry mercy, and remind the castigator that it is a man's misfortune, not his fault, that he is born a lord. Even Mr. DISRAELI's organ has its little jesuitical liberalisms about plebeian merit, and reminds you that the Tory aristocrats have often condescended to hire their political flunkies from the untitled classes. The *Daily News*, of course, works away morning after morning against the "Incorrigibles" with the most uncompromising vigour and the most unequivocal honesty of purpose: every promotion of a person whose name is to be found in the Peerage is stigmatised by its incorruptible pen. But what does all this come to? Simply this, that aristocrats do not taboo their own sons and brothers. They employ the men they know. They take their relations as their clerks and partners just as merchants take theirs. Nothing can be more natural. Besides, the younger sons have a sort of claim upon us for political employment. We oblige them to be honourables and forbid them to dig, in order that we may preserve the Corinthian capital of society. It is like the claim which the younger members of the Royal Family have upon us for an indemnification in the shape of pensions against the disabilities of the Marriage Act. But for the social restrictions which we lay upon them, several of the present Ministry might be thriving tailors. They who minister to the altar must live of the altar. The honourable minister to our flunkies, and of our flunkies they must live. It is the same with all those who complain against aristocratic pride, while they respect the institution of aristocracy. Pride is the function of aristocrats. Where is the use of castes if the distinction is never to be felt? We rail against the effects, and cherish or spare the cause.

Are we to have an aristocracy? That is a question which Destiny has now put to this nation, and to which she will have an answer. The answer of the *Times* would soon be given, if any one were to attempt in earnest to "make a radical change in our form of government." The English aristocracy has

been great in history. It has been, upon the whole, the manliest, bravest, most moral, most friendly to law and freedom of all aristocracies that the world ever saw. It has spoken and fought for liberty when the Commons were powerless and dumb. Half of its members took part in the Rebellion; three-fourths took part in the Revolution. Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights will for ever bear its name. Has it now gone the common way of all medieval institutions? Has it, through the general diffusion of those political aptitudes which it once monopolised, become effete for good purposes, and powerful only for evil? If this is so, there is still time—though but little time—to gather up its ashes into an honoured urn, and to inscribe upon that urn the names of Runnymede and the Convention. And what good man, whether noble or plebeian, can doubt the justice and expediency of doing so?

What is the English aristocracy? Mainly the progeny of successful advocates; a source from which, as CARLYLE says, you can scarcely expect a very superior morality to spring. If there are exceptions, they are chiefly the descendants of statesmen like BURLEIGH, who amassed great fortunes in the public service, while noble natures like WALSINGHAM served their country and died poor. There is no very strong title to perpetuity here. As to any claims to the exclusive or even peculiar possession of high principle or honour, let the social success of HUDSON, and the political success of DISRAELI, speak for itself. We pass over more private instances of aristocratic high-mindedness, which are now coming upon us somewhat thickly, and which remind us of the sinister omens sent to the House of ORLEANS in the affairs of the Duke de PRASLIN and M. TESTE. As to the actual power of the Peers, it has long departed. They have dropped the sword and have not taken up the pen. There is nothing on which their domination as a caste can rest. There is no one quality, mental or physical, in which they are distinguishable from common men. Their huntmen hunt better; their gamekeepers shoot better; their peasants fight better: and it seems that with all their advantages in the way of early training, almost everybody governs better. Wealth is their last support: and their wealth is being wasted by mortgages, and outdone by colossal fortunes made in manufacture and commerce. Is the perpetual influx of CAMPBELLS, PEPPES, and ROLFS, with the occasional absorption of a JONES LLOYD, sufficient to turn the scale?

We shall be told that the English are by nature aristocratic, that is, they are by nature flunkies, and incapable of transferring to nobility of character the respect which they have been taught to pay to nobility of birth. This is the lesson constantly preached by political charlatans, who glorify the ascendancy of low passions and prejudices, which they call human nature, just as a snake might plead for the sylvan beauties of a jungle, or as the cholera, if it had a weekly organ, might try to cast a halo round foul drains. And flunkies undoubtedly the English people are in all situations of life, in the mother country and in the colonies, at home and abroad. The aristocratic satirist has plenty of matter for most righteous sneers at democratic tufthunting. But this servility is not a part of our nature: it is the result of eight centuries of national training. It is fast vanishing from the higher minds; in the lower, it is closely linked to hate.

If the hour of the aristocracy be come, then with it must come the hour of another institution, which is merely the social apex of aristocracy, but the perpetuity of which it has never entered into the heart of the *Times*.

to question. Economy, and still more reason and feeling, would very soon demand a further change. To pay half a million annually for a dull and senseless pageant would perhaps seem a small thing to a rich nation. It would not seem a small thing that our political, religious, and social system should be made an organised lie. It would not seem a small thing that we should be continually praying to God to endow with wisdom to govern us those whom we will not and cannot suffer to take the smallest part in the work of government. It would not seem a small thing that the sacred language of loyalty and love should be daily addressed to those towards whom we can feel no loyalty or love at all, and on whom, directly they try to be anything but name at the head of the Court circular, the Tories themselves—the canters about "Patriot Kings"—shower calumny and insult. It is, as we say, merely as the social apex of aristocracy that the hereditary monarchy can stand for an hour in a country which is not utterly bereft of reason, nor utterly reckless of veracity, nor insanely prodigal of cash.

We have spoken freely, and it is time that people should do so. The *Times* is trading, in its respectably-roguish fashion, on the feeling of the hour; but it is far enough from honestly opening the whole question, and it would be ready enough to hang any man who should dare practically to do so. We have "drifted" into a war; let us not drift into a revolution. Let us know what we are going to do, and do it firmly and deliberately, like Englishmen and men. This will be better for all parties. When nations drift into revolutions, a reign of Terror comes first and a BONAPARTE follows.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

No clear-sighted politician, on either side of the Channel, will misunderstand the circumstances of LOUIS NAPOLEON's visit to England. The meaning of the Imperial trip is obvious, and obvious, also, will be the meaning of the public reception. Supplied by Queen VICTORIA's invitation with a motive for postponing his journey to the Crimea, the FRENCH EMPEROR will supply to the English populace an object on which to vent their explosive sentiments with reference to their "gallant allies." From first to last, the proceeding will be essentially dramatic. The state actors are learning their parts, the choruses are rehearsing, the stage effects are already prepared. Thus far all is safe: there will be noise and glitter enough; and those impatient Radicals who meditated a demonstration have been warned that any such attempt would be reprehensible and unavailing. The vast body of thoughtful men will not come to the rescue of these undisciplined skirmishers, well knowing that it would be equally needless and useless to produce discord in a crowd by the utterance of that feeling with which polluted and lawless power inspires every honourable mind. No profound observer fears that the Imperial visit will be a triumph of arbitrary principles; there is not even the pretence of a triumph; there has been no victory, and, therefore, an exulting pageant would be simply ridiculous. Mobs will press along the thoroughfares; civic plate will clatter; and aristocrats will pay their ceremonial homage to this tenant-at-will of a throne on which no ruler has died during a century; everything which constitutes a real ovation must be wanting.

Personally, in fact, the FRENCH EMPEROR cannot but feel that he has no genuine friends at the English Court. He must remember, that not long ago it was high policy at St.

James's to keep him in obscurity for the sake of that *entente cordiale* which was affected by LOUIS PHILIPPE. The truth is, that our royal personages, in exchange for their social advantages, are compelled to forego some of the rights of private life. State visitors, like state speeches, are "approved by the Cabinet," and it is impossible not to feel for those whose situation forces them to receive any individuals whom, for public purposes, it is thought desirable to conciliate. The ancestral and hereditary house of England, however, is more politic than the Imperial house of Russia, which rejected the advances of a *parvenu*.

Nevertheless, a majority of those who welcome the FRENCH EMPEROR, will not, even in secret, shrink from their guest. They form the light elements of society, and are without the balance of sustained convictions. "Good Society," no doubt, regards him with grateful admiration. The citizen governors of London, it is equally certain, have said in their hearts that his MAJESTY OF FRANCE is a mighty prince; they seize the opportunity for a feast, for flattery, and for self-glorification; they would "wait upon" the EMPEROR OF CHINA, or the KING OF SHOA, with no less humility; they rejoice in persuading the French public that they are the chief inhabitants of London. But to the intelligent circles of Paris it was evident, when the City Deputation arrived, if it had not been notorious before, that our civic functionaries form by no means the most respectable class of citizens. As an administrative body they are condemned, and have only been reprieved by the war from the consequences of reform. Unquestionably, the most honourable of their fellow-citizens, the bankers and merchants, have repeatedly declined to consort with them, or partake of their dignities. But, so natural is the affinity between plush and purple, that these FALSTAFFS of Guildhall, idolators of embroidery, revere that senate of dumb nominees, which wears silver lace, which registers the commands of its master, and which atones, in the opinion of some, for the age of corrupt parliamentary majorities under LOUIS PHILIPPE.

The more dignified classes of citizens will probably receive the guest of the Court with formal honours; public events, perhaps, demand no less; but they demand no more; and, if we mistake not, there were protesting voices even in that civic court, which sat with closed doors, and agreed to hospitable resolutions. But no man is called on to provoke the mob by political interruptions any more than he is bound to join the riot of applause, or to aid in those orgies of adulation with which our stall-fed citizens will shake the plate on their tables.

So far, therefore, the reception of the FRENCH EMPEROR will only in one sense have a political meaning. It will represent the bias of our statesmen to a French alliance, it will exhibit the uses of our Court, the complicity of our aristocracy, and the popular feeling for a union of Europe against Russia. The Common Council, which all but suffocated M. KOSSUTH, and the populace which cheered him, would now receive with an uproar of delight the "chivalrous young EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA," were he to attempt the siege of Sebastopol in concert with us. Of such elements is promiscuous popularity—under chandeliers and street-lamps—composed. If there be others, they are the frenzy of excitement, which would be roused as well by a donkey in a balloon, and some unexpected brilliancy added to the early London season, to give a sparkling finish to the follies of our Corinthian order.

But the display, however artificial, would not be complete without a salute from the press. Old Tory organs, of course, with Jacobite tenacity, worship any one who governs without law; others only fulfil their mission when they fly like feathers in the wind; but it was reserved for such as affect liberal traditions to make their obeisance awkwardly, as if half ashamed. What adds to the unreality of the whole transaction is the solicitude with which these journalists, who, at the time of the *coup d'état*, hunted to infamy the "one base exception" which approved it, try to fit on their new opinions, and to save themselves with the world by exercises of casuistry. Just so does a contented old servitor sophisticate with his conscience, and accommodate himself to his master's friends; but let it be noticed that not one of them ventures to write a line of welcome without an apology, a reserve, and an explanation. But is it necessary to "make things comfortable" at such a sacrifice? Were it not better to be excluded from scenic festivities which impose exactions so galling to self-respect? The credit of statesmanship is now confided to a few men, who are supposed to pray in earnest "God defend the right," who appeal to honour and justice, and have lost much for conscience' sake. May we put it to them once more? Must they offer any other than official courtesies to a ruler who gained power and holds it by means which the entire machinery of British law has been invented to render impossible here?

The *Examiner*—sleek *umbras* of Whig tables—offers to defend such men against their own conscience. High and virtuous minds, it says, admired what was great in the FIRST NAPOLEON, and it calls over the muster-roll of hereditary Whigs. In the FIRST NAPOLEON's character there was a certain greatness; at least he possessed genius, and had his arms been allied with ours, we might not now have carried on war for a year with nothing to show for it but a justification in the *Moniteur*. CHARLES JAMES FOX, however, would not have admired him for his lawlessness alone, even had he possessed a face like a leaden mask, such as was enjoyed by that solicitor who used to be retained, in spite of his dulness, to stare ERSKINE out of countenance. But the FIRST CONSUL himself never won the best men of France to his cause. He left France diminished in territory, disgraced by two invasions, depopulated, demoralised, though he stamped with his name some of the splendid civil projects of the Convention. Even he lived to be detested, to seek safety in the spirit of the Revolution he had betrayed, and to hanker for the friendship of those despots whom he had endeavoured to humble.

Hitherto, indeed, the French have not suffered in territory during the suspension of their liberties. But they have gained nothing in exchange for the inestimable rights thus violated and destroyed. They have a Government to which not one illustrious name is attached, and scarcely one unsullied; their army, though it could emulate Cossacks at home, has gained—the *Times* admits—not one decisive victory; the ablest generals are proscribed, the ablest statesmen stand aloof. For it is not forced exile, nor imprisonment only, that deprives the nation of its best public men. Those who are not openly hostile, are conspicuous in retreat, and with some, *ubi libertas ibi patria*, so that they disdain the soil which refuses to nourish political freedom. Thus has it come that France—injured and humiliated—makes war without kindling the enthusiasm of her people. The Nephew at the height of his

power may say as did the Uncle on the eve of his fall—"Tout m'est soumis, et tout me manque."

It is not our fault if journalists cannot recommend a courteous welcome to the public guest without proposing a tribute to tyranny itself. Retracting none of their animadversions on the *coup d'état*, they confess that it has produced a "new sort of despotism"—a sort just as old as that of DOMITIAN. What novelty is there in the existing government of France? Is its swaggering violence new? or its false pretences? or its proscription lists? or its censorship? or its senate of mutes? or its Corps of Valets—or its delation and espionage? No;—but its public works—suggestive of CARACALLA, symbolical of that worst age of Roman decay, in which the emperors found a city of bricks and left it of marble; the age in which arms, laws, and civic virtues sank to servitude. After such an era was Rome debased and affronted by the insolence of every criminal who could debouch a pretorian guard.

No one expects the English populace to understand these things, or the English aristocracy to care for them. The former will see in the FRENCH EMPEROR a man whose army is fighting by the side of our own; the latter will forget, in their worship of power, how SR. ARNAUD clutched a marshal's bâton as he died, like an Eastern Rajah, with thousands of victims to make his funeral glorious. But why do respectable journalists exaggerate the necessities of LOUIS NAPOLEON's visit, and mystify their readers by talking of his claims to praise for seeking an English alliance? The FRENCH EMPEROR—and little blame to him for it—first sought the alliance of Russia, and being repulsed by NICOLAS, fell back upon England as a resource, exactly as he took a charming and estimable lady to wife after suing in vain at half a dozen German Courts. We owe our ally, therefore, to the pride of the Emperor NICOLAS, precisely as the FRENCH EMPRESS owes her crown to the pride of certain petty sovereigns of Germany.

His IMPERIAL MAJESTY may encounter in England some of those men who, exiled for their virtue, retain spirit enough to prefer lifelong banishment to any mean compromise with his authority. He, the public guest, represents certain elements in France; *they*—the public guests also—represent all that is upright, manly, and illustrious in their country, and their principles are respected by all that is earnest, honest, and intelligent in England. We trust that our public men will so order their reception of the Imperial visitor as not to offend those classes of the French which he *does not* represent. If the alliance is to be enduring, it must ultimately be placed on another basis; it must be the union of two nations inspired by the same attachments and by the same antipathies, with identical interests and institutions at least partially in common. Wanting these elements the bond is purely artificial; formed by accident, and by accident liable to be broken. LOUIS NAPOLEON himself, by a turn in the politics of Europe, may find it convenient to develop more strongly the ties with which he seeks to link his throne with the kindred authority of Austria; or the Court of St. Petersburg, despising the past, may consent to be less fastidious in its choice of associates. The FRENCH EMPEROR must lean on some external power; he resembles a tree without root, balanced by its branches, and sustained by props. But the time may come when, in England, the nation will begin to question the value of the THIRD NAPOLEON's friendship, which has injured her more than the FIRST NAPOLEON's enmity: this is at least the opinion of French society.

EXCLUSION OF THE MIDDLE CLASSES.

THE middle classes are struck with their own wrongs: they complain that they are excluded from the power of the State, that they are not admitted to the army; and that they can at the best have some of the minor appointments in the Church. The complaint is not strictly true. The middle classes do appoint some of our bishops—when the sons of that class are studious or servile enough to work their way from stage to stage, and to mount the highest pulpit; but then they abandon the class to which they belong, and call themselves of the aristocracy. For verily we doubt whether there is a bishop that is a commoner by birth, who does not in his own mind regret the fact that the Lady Bishop is only "Mrs. ——." The middle classes can get their sons high into office, even as high as a PEEL can advance; if your tradesmen or manufacturer can amass a sufficient sum of money to back his son with a university education, or a great fortune, or a landed estate, displacing some old family to plant the new. But then, again, the scion of the middle class is indignant indeed, if he be not counted of the aristocracy. He has only helped to sustain that institution with "new blood," and the abandoned middle classes profit as little as Dido did by AENEAS's marriage with LAVINIA. And your middle class can purchase commissions in the army—*after* having got sufficient wealth to pay the purchase-money, and to wield the influence that backs the application for purchase. But then again the child of trade goes to live near Belgrave-square, and cuts his City connexions. It is the treachery of the sons of the middle class that leaves it without influence, although the individuals get it.

There must be something, then, in the conduct of the class which saps the natural affection of its children, destroys the *esprit de corps*, and makes those who rise from it ashamed of their origin, and not anxious that their class should rise with them. Possibly we might find the explanation of this unfilial feeling in the general supposition, that the spirit of the middle class, its habits of thought and feeling, are more commercial than chivalrous, more selfishly beneficial than honourably generous. Men who have risen to rank by the scales of trade are apt to kick the ladder down when the prize is grasped. To carry with you your middle-class associations into the salons of Belgravia, is like talking about business on Sundays.

The same class makes it a matter of complaint and indignation, that its aristocracy is not sufficiently valued. Its contractors, its shipowners, its stupendous engineers, are not taken into the Government. True; but what does the fact prove? They tell us that if a LINDSAY were to govern the Admiralty, we should not have those deplorable mistakes which have rendered large fleets of shipping comparatively useless in the Black Sea; that if a SALT were placed over a public department, all the subordinates would be made to know their duty, and the business would be executed; that if a LAING were in the Cabinet, the members would keep railway time, and the country would go as smoothly as the Brighton line. The assurance is not entirely reassuring, for it does suggest occasional collisions. It is true that men in the East of London understand business better than men in the West; it is probable that if we had LINDSAYS, SALTS, and LAINGS, we should have an attendance in the public offices at business hours; the "Dons" would not come down at three o'clock in the afternoon; and customers coming to give orders, or creditors coming to be paid, would not find the clerks whistling "Peter Dick," or making arrangements to spend the day at Gravesend. For

all the real power, we are told, lies with your LAINGS, LINDSAYS, SALTS, STEPHENSONS, and PAXTONS.

Why, then, in Heaven's name, do they not take their places? If they have this power, why not exert it? Do not let us be told that they are strong men, but are kept out of power, and cannot help it. For the complaint is a contradiction in terms. If the LAINGS, LINDSAYS, and Co., are kept out of power, it must be through their own weakness. Either they do not stand by each other, or they do not get others to stand by them. They are nearer to the working classes than "the aristocracy," and they ought to have more support from "the million." Why do they not besiege Downing-street with the multitude at their back, knock at the door of the office, and *make* themselves be let in? There must be some serious error in their accounts, or they would not have the complaint to make.

Why are they excluded from the army? It is not by the system of purchase, because the middle classes possess considerable means of purchasing, if it pleases them. But we suspect their inclinations do not go in the military line. They do not care for soldiering. They prefer a comfortable home, keeping to safe employment or useful labours; they like production instead of destruction—that is the phrase. Now there are some of the middle class who labour under the religious persuasion that soldiering can be done away with; that States will upon invitation disband their armies; and that we may discontinue a useless profession. We are bound also to believe in the coming of the Millennium; but present facts rather painfully convince us that it has not yet arrived. To talk about disbanding armies in the days of Sebastopol, with doubtful prospects on the Danube, the Vistula, the Rhine, and the Neva, is rather an anachronism. We must, therefore, reckon military strength as one of the elements of the governing power of all States that are to be independent, or to sustain a Government. While it exists it is the real arbiter over other powers. Influence may obtain possession of the sword, but once possessed, the sword determines other questions. A hold over the sword, therefore, is essential to complete any political power. The Crown is said officially to wield the power of the sword alone, but that which is true in theory, is not in practice. There are the men and officers of the army to be consulted: the aristocratic and wealthy classes officer the British army; and if it were possible for a CHARLES STUART to arise, he could no more order the army against our aristocracy and our moneyocracy than he could enforce ship-money against HAMPDENS. The officers of the army always are the depositaries of the largest, though not the readiest, share of power in disposing of the army; and, consequently, a great share of military power lies with the class that officer the army. The middle classes *abstain* from doing so. They abstain because they do not share military tastes or chivalrous sympathies; and they are punished by their exclusion from the army which they do not readily seek to enter. Hence is it that the army is anti-national—because the middle classes, having no real interest in it, do not care to insist upon free passage for the poorer middle classes through the ranks, or the direct admission of representatives of their own class into the rank of officers. Unsympathising with their own class—isolated from the support of the multitude—abdicating the power of the sword—discontented with the untrading parts of Government—the middle classes have accumulated an inert force which they have not the spirit to use; and they have rendered

the association with themselves so little palatable even to themselves, that those of their body who do obtain power and influence cut the connexion and use it for the benefit of other classes.

THE "MONITEUR" ON THE WAR.

The document published in Wednesday's *Moniteur* may be regarded from several points of view—as a tardy homage to the force of public dissatisfaction; as a simple *compte rendu* and substitute for the "debates" of a free Parliament; as an indirect mode of showing the share which the late Marshal ST. ARNAUD had in the expedition to the Crimea; as a contribution to the history of the war. It is from the last point of view that we propose to look at the document, and to subject it to impartial criticism, dismissing for the moment all political considerations, and without any preconceived desire to uphold or to depress the reputation of this man or that, whether he be General or Emperor.

In order to appreciate the beginning of the campaign, we must recall the situation of affairs in the spring of 1854. When war was declared, the Russians had already begun offensive operations. Their troops had crossed the Danube and mastered the Dobrudscha, and the main body of the army was drawing down to Kalarash with the view of besieging Silistria. The Turks held the line of the Danube from Silistria to Widin, but the line of operations starting from the Dobrudscha was open to them. The single, strong, offensive position held by the Turks was the entrenched lines at Kalafat, which effectually barred the Russians from any attempt to penetrate into Servia, or to turn the Balkan by Sophia. It was therefore on the cards that a daring Russian general, acting with decision and rapidity, might have masked the fortresses, and have penetrated, with a strong body of troops, through the Balkan. The writer in the *Moniteur* tells us that in April, when the expedition was about to leave France, "inquiries were anxiously made whether our military forces would arrive in time to cover Constantinople." This fact is the key to the earlier proceedings of the Allies. Their first object was to cover Constantinople. How should this be done? The best military authorities have pointed out the way—the occupation of the peninsula of Gallipoli. It is not clear that the public have ever understood the importance of this position; certainly it was not understood at the time. The peninsula of Gallipoli lies at the entrance of the Dardanelles, which washes its southern, as the Gulf of Eos washes its northern, shores. At a certain point, near Boulair, the neck of land communicating with the interior is easily defended. Therefore, an army posted at Gallipoli would command the Dardanelles—a point of great importance—would be easily supplied with provisions, stores, and munitions of war, would occupy a position almost impregnable on the land side, and hold in its hands the means of retreat by sea in case of reverses. But more than all, a strong army entrenched at Gallipoli would flank any force approaching Constantinople from the Balkan, and most certainly stop its progress further south than Adrianople. These considerations, developed in the *Moniteur*, and previously sustained by eminent military men, dictated the first step taken by the Allies in the war. So far, therefore, the reasoning of the organ of the French Government rests on a solid technical basis.

But by the time the Allies had mustered at Gallipoli, the design of the enemy had been tested by difficulties. The Russian campaign, so brilliantly begun, did not proceed with the same ratio of success. Silistria seemed likely

to stop the way, and the difficulty of moving through the Dobrudscha had greatly retarded the march of the corps of LUDERS to perform its share of the siege. There was, therefore, not only time to cover Constantinople, but possibly to save Silistria, certainly to defend the Balkan. Hence the movement of the troops by sea to Varna, as soon as they had assembled in numbers sufficient to form a respectable army. The probability of this movement also was foreseen by the Allied Governments. In his instructions to Marshal ST. ARNAUD, the FRENCH EMPEROR directs him to come to an understanding with Lord RAGLAN and OMAR PACHA respecting the adoption of one of three plans—an advance to the Balkan, the seizure of the Crimea, or a landing at Odessa. But in ease they made choice of the line of the Balkan as a first position, they were naturally directed upon Varna. Yet even up to this point the Allied Governments, it would appear, only calculated on a defensive war in Bulgaria. "In no case" was "the army ever to remove too far from the Black Sea." There was, as we know, another reason, equally strong as the Imperial instructions—the almost total want of land transport. The Allies could not have moved upon Silistria, even if it had been necessary, and this was surely a grave defect in the expedition. But there was no necessity. OMAR PACHA looked upon the fall of Silistria as "inevitable;" he was agreeably deceived; BUTLER and NASHMUTH made the Turks fight; Silistria held out; and, as the *Moniteur* observes, the courage of the Turks and "the presence of the Allies" caused Prince GORTSCHAKOFF to raise the siege and retire to the left bank of the Danube—and shortly afterwards, for strategic reasons, from the Principalities.

The next point for consideration is, why the Allies did not pursue the Russians into Bessarabia. The reasons given by the *Moniteur* against this project are mostly sound, but all of them are not creditable. It is clear that it would have been madness to have crossed the Danube without the active co-operation of Austria—and Austria was not in a position, even had she been willing, to give the co-operation required. Nor would it have been wise to have entered a devastated country with no conceivable object, especially as the allied army had no transport, no reserves of artillery, no magazines, nay, no army of reserve! The army would have receded from its resources, as the enemy fell back upon well-filled magazines; and, if not beaten in battle, the Allies would have perished by disease and want—and all for nothing. The Russians were driven from the Principalities without battles, by the mere dynamic pressure of concentrating armies.

The Allies had, therefore, fulfilled the first part of their mission; they had secured the defence of Samboul at Gallipoli; they had ensured the evacuation of the Principalities at Varna. But they were then placed in a dilemma. Inactivity for an object is possible to an army; but objectless inactivity is quite impossible—nay, unsafe. The political interests (which we do not here discuss) of the alliance concurred with military necessities; the Allies determined upon action, and the expedition to the Crimea was chosen as the most likely to be fruitful in its political effects upon the war. It is where a defensive changes into an offensive war, that we find plenty of room for doubting the wisdom of the course pursued.

And here we remark that the language of the *Moniteur* becomes unsatisfactory. Nothing may have been more fitting than an expedition to the Crimea; nothing so likely to produce decisive results; but if done at all it required to be well done. It was one thing to decide upon the expedition; it was another to

execute it. The plan was matter for deliberation; it was warmly debated, and referred home. The home authorities declined to send instructions, but they sent advice; and that advice was not taken.

There were two modes of attaining the desired result—possession of Sebastopol. The one was to land as near as convenient to the fortress, march directly upon it, and seize it by a *coup de main*; the other was to land at the point most convenient and most easily secured, to operate from that, and to look forward to the capture of Sebastopol as the reward of a campaign. The former plan was the empirical one; and it was adopted, there is reason to believe, mainly through the influence of ST. ARNAUD—a man trained in the Algerian school of warfare, a general of razzias and street-fights. ST. ARNAUD knew that his death was at hand; he burned to die in Sebastopol; he dreamed that the crowning expansion of his life would be the reward of a *coup de main* in the Crimea. But the latter plan we are told was the plan which the Cabinets of London and Paris recommended to their generals. It was proposed that the troops should occupy Kaffa, and thus block out reinforcements from the Caucasus and the Sea of Azof; that the securing Kaffa as a base of operations, they should advance on Simpheropol, the strategic and administrative centre of the peninsula, engage the Russian army in the field, and invest Sebastopol. This was at least a scheme in accordance with military principles; and why it was not adopted the *Moniteur* fails to explain. We may supply, perhaps, a few reasons: Marshal ST. ARNAUD was in a hurry, and must pluck the fruit ripe or unripe; the army was too small, as then constituted; it had no means of land transport—of itself a conclusive reason. The expedition embarked just in the season for a *coup de main*, but too late for a regular campaign, which would have brought the army before Sebastopol. Empiricism carried it over sound principle. "Unhappily," says the *Moniteur*, "the advice from Paris and London was not taken"—why, it does not say. But it would have been far better to have wintered near Kaffa, and collected a great force for the spring, than to winter over above Sebastopol.

This is the weak side in the justification of the *Moniteur*. Whether, taking facts as we find them, the generals pursued, not the most correct course theoretically, but the best practically, when they turned the harbour and fell upon the south side, is another question. We have no means of judging whether the north should have been stormed at once, or, failing that, the south stormed at once; but prudence cried loudly against anything so hazardous as an assault; and it soon became obvious that Sebastopol could only be taken after a hard struggle, and a reparation of the fault of 1854. That struggle is not over; we have yet to learn the result; and we shall probably see an active army operating against the enemy in the field, in order that the damage done by the empiricism of 1854 may be corrected in 1855.

OUR FAMILIES AGAIN.

AGAIN "the families" are before the public, under charges that subject them to the penal law. It has now been publicly announced that the Honourable FRANCIS VILLIERS, fourth son of the Earl of JERSEY, member for Rochester, and a steward of the Jockey Club, has failed to make good his engagements. His constituents, it has been reported, held a meeting for the purpose of calling upon him to resign his seat; but they were prevented from presenting their memorial by the important previous question—where was Mr. VILLIERS? He has not only in-

urred liabilities that he cannot meet—tradesmen and other honest folks are liable to that conspiracy, although they do not wantonly drag upon those liabilities by engaging in turf transactions—it is not only he has been a sporting character, but the liabilities thus wantonly incurred he does not confront. He disappears. And there are dark insinuations as to the nature of these liabilities. Yet there is no getting over the fact that, by the usage of society amounting to a law, he is, *par excellence*, "the Honourable FRANCIS VILLIERS!" There may be other persons of the name of VILLIERS, and even christened FRANCIS; but he is the "Honourable" of those names.

These cases of exposure in high life are becoming so frequent and so various as to make us ask whether "the exception proves the rule"—that is, whether these exceptions to the fulfilment of the title "Honourable," prove that honour is the rule. We really doubt it. In strict logic, as JOHN STUART MILL tells us, an exception does not prove the rule, but proves that the statement of the rule is defective; and a multiplicity of exceptions proves that the fact is inconsistent with the statement of the rule. We have then to ask how many per cent. of our aristocracy are, more or less, in the same boat with the Honourable FRANCIS?

The peerage has always contributed a full share to the *causes célèbres* of our criminal courts, and we have had crimes which the silken halter and the axe have failed to expiate. But really the last twelve months or so have become so fertile in noble and honourable misdeeds, that we begin to ask whether the aristocracy is not rather outshining other classes in the same department. When ALICE LEROY broke from the revolting prison into which she had been kidnapped from Belgium, she disclosed a *clientela* for the house of Madame DENIS which must have been wealthy, and was probably aristocratic. The girl REGINBAL disclosed similar facts respecting the house of MARMAYSER, in Newman-street. There was an old nobleman at both places; and the "old marquis," who was *not* a marquis, has become quite a familiar expression. Subsequently, the case of FRENCH *versus* ROLT let us into the interior of a house in Belgravia; and here again there was a nobleman involved, *not* according to conventional ideas of morality, though not in any serious manner. The case of SEFTON or DERBY *versus* HORWOOD has been contributing its "life" to the daily newspapers, like the *feuilleton* of the French journals. It shows that the grown-up children of a gentleman connected with the land can pester the last days of their father by quarrelling about their interests as indecorously as the children of vulgar parents—rather more so, since the school of their operations is enlarged. The case of HOPE *versus* AGUADO brought us in connexion with the land and aristocracy, and more family feuds. That of HANDCOCK *versus* DELACOUR again dragged a nobleman into the field. Here the aspersions were so serious, that the Marquis of CLANRICARDE has thought it necessary to defend himself before the public with statements that have in no single instance been accepted as satisfactory. Lord CLANRICARDE interferences for the defence of his conduct in this most extraordinary case, and leaves the whole matter still a controversy; some of the persons to whom he had referred adding themselves to the number of his accusers. The position of the Order of Nobles is getting serious. The number of the Peers is not so great as to constitute it a very numerous body, and if these cases are exceptions, we want to know how large a percentage is to be allowed for such exceptions?

Everybody is aware that a comparatively small proportion of offenders are brought to justice, even in the humblest class; but *à fortiori*

do offenders escape in those classes which have money, influence, and almost every means of purchasing immunity. The number of the Peers, therefore, who are brought into court on account of irregular transactions within the cognisance of the law, is probably smaller than the numbers of those persons of noble birth who are implicated in such transactions, but escape being brought to justice. How great a percentage must we allow out of the noble families who are in question? We have already had before the public in these transactions, more or less directly implicated, seven or eight noble families; and there are some others connected with similar transactions in years not long gone by. But, excluding eccentricities like those of an Irish viscount who figured some years in the case of ALICE LOWE, and comparatively harmless peccadilloes like that of the noblemen disclosed in the case of ROLT *versus* FRENCH,—excluding such cases, we have some ten noble families involved in the grossest irregularities. How many more, we say, have escaped being brought to account? Is it another ten? Have we twenty noble families involved, or thirty, or forty? Taking the lowest account, it appears that the criminal percentage in that class must be rather high.

The gentlemen of the Commissariat in the East are aggrieved with Lord PALMERSTON, because, when somebody had said in the House of Commons that the public departments which were manned by gentlemen had broken down, he pointed to the medical, commissariat, and transport departments, manned by men unconnected with the peerage and the land, and therefore *not* "gentlemen." The officers of the Commissariat call upon Lord PANMURE to vindicate their honour, intelligence, and zeal in the endeavour to conduct duties which the system prevented them from accomplishing. Probably, if they were to confront the facts as we view them, the officers of the Commissariat might be disposed to reverse their request to Lord PANMURE. If the departments are manned by those who are not gentlemen in the parliamentary sense, the construction of their department, its administration from above, and the supreme responsibility, lie with the governing classes—with the families, noble or landed. The breakdown of the Commissariat is chargeable against those by whose decree the departments are established as they are, not against the individuals comprised. But we doubt very much whether, amongst the classes whence the medical, commissariat, and transport departments in the East are manned, there is anything like the criminal percentage which we have indicated for our aristocratic classes. Accepting Lord PALMERSTON's definition of a gentleman, we are inclined to doubt whether any member of the class that mans those subordinate departments, and that carries on our great works in the professions, in trade, and in practical science, will not learn to exclaim with pride, "No, thank God, I am *no* gentleman!"

We have some right, indeed, to charge the disgrace of the individual upon the class, since the most outrageous charges may be current, be undenied, be reiterated, and then be met by denials that break down from their own incompleteness; and yet the class itself will make no difference whatever in its demeanour to the individual. Let a man be convicted of breaking certain conventional laws which others break universally, "under the rose,"—or let him be guilty of some still greater enormity, such as picking his teeth with a silver fork,—and he may become an outcast from society. But to be accused of implication in any of the transactions to which we have referred, leaves him still free to pass without challenge amongst the Peers of the realm assembled in state, or to be presented to his Sovereign in Court.

THANET UNION INDUSTRIAL FARM.
We have received the usual report on the state of the Thanet industrial farm, for the year 1854, in the form of an abstract of the accounts, which we subjoin:—

ISLE OF THANET UNION.

Abstract of Garden Account (the Produce of Twelve Acres), for the Year ending 28th of November, 1854.

DEPTOR.	£ s. d.	CREDITOR.	£ s. d.
To Stock, brought forward.	100 11 0	By Pigs sold.	227 5 2
Balance of Tools	7 12 0	Potatoes	25 5 4
Pigs bought	62 4 3	Green Peas	0 16 0
Food for ditto	123 3 7	Turnips	0 6 3
Rent, Tithes, Rates	34 15 1	Parsnips	0 6 0
Tradesmen's Bills	7 19 6	Cabbages	0 5 6
Seed Potatoes	6 11 0	Plants	0 1 2
Sundry Seeds	3 2 1	Onions	0 1 0
Manure bought	3 2 4	Total sold	234 5 9
Plants	1 10 0	By Cabbages, &c.	21 15 0
Sundries	6 6 3	Potatoes	37 4 0
Ten per Cent. on Piggery	7 0 0	Parsnips	17 13 0
Grains	3 4 0	Onions	5 8 0
House Manure	5 0 0	Turnips	5 5 0
Coal	2 0 0	Broad Beans	4 0 0
Straw	8 0 0	Potatoes used for Seed	16 0 0
		Total consumed	127 2 8
	442 1 11	Valuation by Messrs. Mancer & Dadds	190 12 0
		Balance of Implements	10 0 0
			200 12 0
		Summary:—	
		Articles sold	234 5 9
		Ditto consumed	127 2 8
Balance	189 18 73	Ditto in store	200 12 0
	581 19 9		581 19 9

We, having carefully valued the crops and stock in hand, and examined the foregoing account, certify that it is correct.

WILLIAM MANNER.

JOHN DADDS.

N.B.—The balance shown by this account is to be partly attributed to the labour of the inmates not being charged, as they would be idle if not so employed.

All the beneficial effects, of course, do not appear on the face of these figures; and, we need scarcely say, that the trading profit is a matter of minor importance compared with other considerations. The minds of the inmates are employed. Many of the unfortunate have, therefore, the less occasion to brood over their reverses in life, and a healthier tone is introduced throughout. Besides the ordinary school instruction, the boys are taught lessons of practical industry,—very valuable to them after leaving the union. In this respect, therefore, the rate-receivers enjoy a superior education to the children of the rate-payers—as the union school *so far* exceeds the national school. But indirectly the rate-payers have their full return in the tendency which such instruction has to prevent the backsliding of young paupers upon the union. In most parish business, as well as national business, too much attention is paid to routine, and family interest is all-powerful. The influence of the clergyman and squire must be propitiated, even before good can be done. The Thanet Union, fortunately, has men of capacity in its resident managers, and the state of the farm is a sufficient proof, both of the capacity and of the genuine interest which the local officers take in it. The motive for zeal will probably be increased by the newly-introduced principle of promotion among the subordinate officers.

THE TORIES AND THE PEELITES.
The *Morning Herald* has been delivered of a grand scandal about an alliance between the Manchester men and the Peelites. We only wish the scandal may prove true, though the *Herald* seems not to have the slightest ground for its assertion. An alliance of that kind would not be a political millennium, but it would be a step out of oligarchy and intrigue towards honesty and manly endeavour, and we should look to it with hope for the people. Appearances, however, are rather the other way as regards the principal Peelite, between whom and some of the others we believe the political union to be less intimate than is commonly supposed. It will be in-

teresting when Parliament reassembles to see where Mr. Gladstone will sit.

The conduct of the *Times* towards the Peelites is not chivalrous; or if chivalrous, it is after the rule of the Derby order of chivalry. They want to keep a lien on them as Conservatives, and at the same time to ostracise them from office and cover them with abuse and insult.

WAR AND PEACE.

THIS pause, while, bleeding from past wounds, we draw Spent breath, and count our losses, count that heap Of lives a Tartar winter laid asleep, And scan the haughty prize we battle for,— Horror at all the precious things we saw Lost in a fatal gulf dug ages deep,— Dreams of a peace which—all we died to keep Relinquishing—would be but smothered war,— Let these not tempt thee, England! to desert The rock to which thy face is nobly set; With pity, awe, deep knowledge, yet fixt heart, We've drawn the death-dyed blade we sheathe not yet, Till Freedom's Queen have done her queinely part, Blest by a world at peace, for that acquitted debt.

March 26, 1855.

WAR-LIGHTS.

When this great world with all its realms once more Safe-balanced, floats upon a sea of rest, Our hearts, in War's sublime result new blent, And strong from conquered rights, will not deplore That stormy sad magnificence, such pure And tender lights its purple beautified; Martyrs who smiled at duty's call—and died,— True hearts that almost broke and yet endure,— Deeds like bright flowers born in that thunderous air, Stars burning thro' its dark, like sacred charms,— A fiery love and holy hatred there Fused in the metal of our conquering arms!— Then faint we not with eyes on that first page Written in tears and blood—but on! to crown the age.

March 26, 1855.

A. S.

Open Council.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If then, it is profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON

OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH.

(To the *Editor of the Leader*.)

SIR.—In the letter of your correspondent V., on the observance of the Sabbath, there are one or two statements to which I am anxious to call attention. The reason assigned in the Book of Deuteronomy for the keeping of the Sabbath-day is not merely "that the Jews should not forget the years of bondage and affliction they passed in the land of Egypt." No doubt they were to remember these, but it was in conjunction with another fact—namely, that God had redeemed them. They were to keep the Sabbath-day as a witness of their redemption, because they were a redeemed people. Nor is the motive—given in 20th chapter of Exodus, viz., that man is to rest because God rested—repeated by Christ, when he says, "My Father worketh hitherto and I work." The rest of God did not consist in a cessation from labour or action—such as is necessary for us, owing to the frailty of our bodies—but in the complacency and satisfaction with which He looked upon all things as created or constituted in Christ—His beloved Son, in whom He is ever well pleased—without whom was not anything made that was made. What Christ is teaching in the passage referred to is, that God's rest was not inconsistent with, or opposed to, work. Because man is created in the image of God, he is to rest like his Maker, he is to enter into the Divine rest. If the Father and the Son worked on the Sabbath-day, then the resting on, or keeping holy that day, could not mean that man was to spend it either in idleness or gloom; it could only mean that he was to be a fellow-worker with God, and was so to enter into His rest.

But, sir, the Fourth Commandment is no longer literally binding upon us; we no longer keep the Jewish Sabbath. If the Fourth Commandment be literally binding upon us, pray, why is not the seventh day of the week kept? Where is the authority of the Christian Church for changing the day fixed by our express enactment? When was a second, corrected edition of this commandment delivered? The first day of the week—which is universally observed by Christians—is the Lord's day; it is a festival—not a fast—kept in commemoration of the resurrection of Christ, and, therein involved, the complete redemption of mankind and of the universe. It rests upon no express enactment; though we keep it for reasons similar to those which were assigned to the Jews for keeping their Sabbath, viz., as a witness of our redemption, as a witness that He who entered into death, the grave, and hell that He might free us from their thralldom, has ascended into heaven, for us, that with him we may enter into the rest of God. It tells us that all the barriers of the old Jewish religion are done away; that now we are to regard nothing as "common or unclean;" that every work of nature and of art is redeemed, holy unto God; that we may worship Him in the Crystal Palace or the British Museum as well and as acceptably as in the church or the meeting-house; in the admiration of the works of genius which He has inspired, as much as in listening to the harangues of a privileged priesthood, which too often give evidence of a very different origin.

They, therefore, who fancy they are doing God service by using this day as a means to prevent the intellectual and moral improvement of those whom their own shameful neglect has hitherto deprived of the most sacred right of every human being—a good education—prove themselves utterly ignorant of the true spirit of the Gospel, and establish their right to be considered the legitimate successors of the Pharisees, who looked upon our Lord, when he healed on the Sabbath-day, as a breaker of the Fourth Commandment. They, in fact, deny the redemption of mankind by Christ, and convert the day which testifies of it into an assertion that we are *not* redeemed.

If I have pointed out what seem to me mistakes in your correspondent's letter, it is because I thoroughly sympathise with its spirit and acquiesce in its conclusions. I would beg to refer every one who is anxious to understand the true doctrine of Scripture on this subject, to a small volume of Sermons on the Sabbath-day, by the Rev. F. D. Maurice, published by Parker and Son, West Strand.

I remain, yours, &c.,

A CLERGYMAN OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

HAVE WE A RULE OF FAITH?

(To the *Editor of the Leader*.)

SIR.—There are many laymen who call themselves members of the Church of England, who yet disobey her injunctions, and absent themselves from her services. The Church exercises great tolerance towards these disobedients, being restrained from punishing, more by want of power than by a spirit of mercy. She is always benevolent except on money matters, being excited to wrath in an instant by the non-payment of her rates and tithes.

Apparently she is now sinking into a state of unconscious torpor, for she extends her spirit of forbearance even towards the clergy. She allows every one to form his own opinion on the efficacy of her principal doctrines. Low Church and High Church meet with equal favour in her eyes. She respects the one party because of its rubrical conscience, the other, by reason of its faithful adherence to the Thirty-nine Articles. She suffers Tractarians to neglect the articles, and Low Churchmen to dispense with the rubrics, feeling satisfied with the knowledge that they believe all her doctrines amongst them. If Mr. Gorham will not believe in Baptismal Regeneration, Archdeacon Denison believes it for him; and on the other hand, Mr. Gorham's views on the subject of the Real Presence are orthodox enough to make up for Archdeacon Denison's delinquencies. Such at least would be the case, had not the personal hostilities of Law and Ditcher brought the Archdeacon's doctrines before the commission. Again the High Churchman holds the daily services, and the Low Churchman celebrates those from "Parliamentary Services," that go against the conscience of his brother clergymen. Thus all the days of observance are kept somewhere, and the Church is satisfied.

Not so the clergymen. The Rev. Mr. A. thinks it just and right that he should be allowed his own opinion, but does not see why the Rev. Mr. B. should be granted the same indulgence. Some clergymen consider themselves bound by half the rubric, and

we know one who gave the inmates of his house no dinner on the 30th of January, but who would not return thanks on the 5th of November for the deliverance of our Church and nation by the arrival of King William. Yet both these services are equally enjoined by the Queen, and signed, by her Majesty's command, by Lord John Russell. We have heard of certain Low Churchmen who, in anger against the Queen, omitted from one of the prayer titles of "religious" and "gracious," thinking her ungracious towards them, and consequently irreligious. Nay, more, we know from certain testimony that a clergyman read a different chapter of the Bible from that appointed in the Prayer Book, not accidentally, but designedly, because he disapproved of that particular lesson. A man who disapproves of one chapter of the Bible, might with equal justice object to the whole book, and we should recommend every clerk to put a copy of *Vanity Fair* in the reading-desk, so that if the officiating clergyman disapproves of the Bible, he may find some book at hand to supply its place.

But to put jesting out of the question, whether will this lead? The Church promulgates certain doctrines, and yet allows her members to hold them or not at their option—she sometimes contradicts them herself. The consequence is, that when Archdeacon Law wishes for revenge on Archdeacon Denison, his best way of proceeding is to arraign him for teaching a doctrine that the Church allows but which she does not hold. The Bishop of Bath and Wells decided that the archdeacon might hold that doctrine, but might not teach it. Does not even this decision imply a certain open disunion in the Church? In the Church of Rome they have a different mode of dealing: they assert positively what doctrines are to be believed, and denounce with equal positiveness all who do not believe them. Thus all the unbelief there is private, and there seems to be a certain union in a divided Church. The English Church goes on the principle of having all its disturbances made public. By this custom she causes scandal to many of her members, and lays herself more open to the insidious attacks of Rome, whose secret religion is safer against outward enemies, and can only fall by its own errors. "What can be more absurd," remarked a Roman Catholic to us the other day, "than to hear on Sunday morning a clergyman state the necessity of believing baptismal regeneration, and to hear on Sunday afternoon that very doctrine pronounced a damnable heresy from the same pulpit?" What can our Church reply to such attacks?

It is evident that no man can hold two contradictory beliefs. But as the Church of England refrains from laying down any decided opinion on some of the most important points of faith, who can say which line of conduct will meet with her approbation? To believe *all* her doctrines is an impossibility, she allows so many. One thing is certain, that if your belief is to be left to your own choice, you should not be held liable to punishment for choosing against the wishes of another party. If there is to be a rule of faith, it should be vital, and should be enforced upon the clergy; but it would be better to have none at all than an obsolete rule, to be used only on certain occasions, and to rest at other times in the darkest closet of the ecclesiastical courts. What we want for the Church is something definite; not a monstrous delusion that perplexes every one, and leads to endless bewilderments and disturbances in the national religion.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
ECCLESIASTICUS.

PERSIA, it is said, has assembled 50,000 men on the Turkish frontier. This suspicious position is attributed to the hope held out by Russia of the cession of the Turkish province.

SIMFEROPOL.—A private letter from Simferopol, published in the Vienna *Presse*, and dated March 8, mentions amongst other matters, that the city is almost entirely converted into a *place d'armes*; none but soldiers are to be seen. The high prices of provisions are quite beyond the means of the civil officials, who can only afford to purchase provisions absolutely indispensable. The churches are thronged with suppliants, who pray fervently for peace. "I saw a young woman from Sebastopol," continues the writer, "who had been kneeling all the morning, praying God to end the war quickly. In the meantime, threatening clouds are gathering in the horizon, and our enemies intend carrying on the war with fresh force."

LODGE CARDIGAN AND LUCAN.—Lord Lucan writes to the *Times* of Friday, reasserting most positively that he sent a message to Lord Cardigan on the famous Light Cavalry occasion, conveying a reproach for not having made a proper use of his forces. Lord Cardigan had previously written to the *Times*, denying that he had received this letter, and also that he had sent a message by Captain Maxse, objecting to the position of his brigade. The fact that the message was received, however, is confidently asserted by Lord Lucan.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

The *British Quarterly Review* opens with an article of unusual excellence. It is on the Italian Literature of the Renaissance, and is evidently the product of a long and assiduous study of a literature studied by few in England, although most cultivated readers devote some portion of their studious leisure to certain parts of it. Most of us read *Ariosto*, and look into *Pulci*; but few care to make any intimate acquaintance with *Boiardo* or *Bassi*, and still fewer venture among the crowd of less celebrated writers. The author of the article before us has made this Literature a subject of special study, and, as may be expected, has much that is both new and valuable to communicate. Among the excellent points of his essay is the relegation of *Pulci*, *Ariosto*, *Boiardo*, and *Berni* into the class of Burlesque Writers, denying them the claim to be considered as Epic Poets. In Italy the *Morgante* and the *Orlando* have been accepted as serious epics. *Ugo Foscolo* and *Panizzi*, two learned Italians, have advocated the same opinion. Of course English and French critics have followed such guidance. But our essayist shows most satisfactorily that upon any intelligible classification of poetry these works have no claim to be considered as epics. After noting how other writers treat old legends, or the romances of an early age, he adds:—

That *Pulci* and *Ariosto* did not attempt in this spirit to divert the public by enlivening in solemn verse the insipid extravagances of the prose romancers, is sufficiently evident from the fact that, instead of pruning down, like *Bernardo Tasso*, and *Alamanni*, the inconsistencies of these fictions, they multiply them in every conceivable manner, and exaggerate them until they become a thousand times more ridiculous. If *Orlando* and his troops, at the famous battle of Roncesvalle, are surrounded by 50,000 Saracens, in the *Quatre Fils Aymon*; in the *Morgante* of *Pulci* they make head against 600,000: if, in *Boiardo*, *Rhodomont* manages with difficulty to put a troop of Christians to flight; in the *Orlando* of *Ariosto* he routs an entire army as easily as *Sancho Panza* a flock of sheep; keeps the populace of a city at bay; despatches thousands of them to Orcus by a single stroke of his sword, and flings their buildings about their ears with the same facility as a child would blow down a castle of cards. If the heroes of the *Reali di Francia* frequently fight after they have been overtaken with mortal wounds, the heroes of *Berni* and *Ariosto* are not unfrequently found combating with no heads on their shoulders or after having been killed outright. Indeed, *Baron Munchausen* on the field of Leipzig does not perform so many marvellous exploits, or escape from such extraordinary complices, as the leading heroes of the *Morgante* and the *Orlando*. When the marvellous incidents of the prose romances can be invested with amusing accessories, the occasion is never missed by either *Pulci* or *Ariosto*. Of this kind is the story of *Orlando*'s fight with the sea-gull, which he manages to drag on shore by means of a cable tied to an enormous anchor, the ends of which he has fixed into the upper and lower jaws of the monster, in its attempt to gulp down both the boat and himself. *Ariosto*, when he wishes to aggrandize his objects, has recourse to those amusing contrasts which *Swift* applies with such ludicrous effect in the travels of *Gulliver*. *Orlando*, on the points of the anchor being thrus into the expanded jaws of the sea-ork, leaps upon its lower teeth, and having sabred the roof and sides of its mouth, drops, amidst a shower of gore, into his boat, and rows out in a sea of blood. It would certainly be whimsical if the source whence *Burger* partly drew his extravagant romance, and the Irish dignitary fed the fire of that wit which threw the gravest divines of Queen Anne's reign into convulsions of laughter, should have been intended as serious descriptions of any phase of existence. But this is not the whole of the case. With all the absurdities which the prose writers gravely narrate, they are at least true to the mediæval chevaliers, in representing them as preserving the integrity of their honour without a stain, and maintaining their plighted word unbroken. For this, however, the only point in which the old chroniclers are faithful to their subjects, they are almost perpetually travestied by the poets in question. *Ruggiero*'s fidelity to *Bradamant* is only preserved so long as temptation is out of the way. *Rinaldo* attempts the chastity of every woman who seeks his protection, and, indeed, declares that any lady who does not satisfy the desires of her lover in this respect ought to undergo capital punishment. Neither *Astolfo* nor *Olivero* ever keep their word, when they can gain any advantage by breaking it. Now there are none of these variations which are not intended to divert the reader, from the ludicrous manner in which the contest between duty and pleasure is painted, and from the discovery of modern delinquents under the coat of the sword martyrs to high principle and worth.

He does not deny the serious element which is found in these works:—

That these poems contain passages as sublime and pathetic as any that are to be met with in the serious heroic epic, may be readily admitted; but such passages will be found to be few in comparison with the jocund portions of the work, and are moreover interspersed or accompanied with so strong a tincture of the ludicrous as to detract in a great measure from the sympathetic feeling they are otherwise calculated to produce. The death-bed scene of *Orlando* in *Pulci* is affecting until the author winds it up with a farcical description of the Roman doctrine of confession. One of the most pathetic parts of the *Orlando Furioso* is undoubtedly the death of *Zerbino*, and the devotion of his faithful spouse, *Isabella*, to his remains.

The sportive element is, however, the dominant element, and is in its nature wilful and burlesque:—

But the sportive character of these productions is more glaringly evinced by the nature of their supernatural machinery and the mode in which it is introduced. If a poet be earnest with his subject, he certainly will never venture to delineate the supernatural agents who preside over the religion of his heroes, except with those majestic features which command awe and reverence wherever they appear. Without this course, nature must fail to be adequately represented; for there never can be, in the present construction of things, such a solecism as men placing faith in beings who do not exact the homage of the higher faculties of their minds. Hence all the serious epic writers, whether they believed in the supernatural agents they employed or not, have exhausted all the resources of their minds in investing them with attributes of a grand and imposing character. *Voltaire*, while conducting the spirit of *Henri Quatre* through the *Elysian* regions, sinks his deistical notions and writes like a pious Catholic. Though *Camoens* had the bad taste to represent Christian saints in conjunction with Pagan divinities, as watching over the destiny of the bark which

effectuated the greatest revolution ever witnessed in the commercial history of nations, these beings are invariably introduced with pomp and solemnity, and inspire that awe which dilates the subject to the scale of epic grandeur. No serious poet, from Homer down to *Klopstock*, ever alludes to supernatural agencies without that gravity which shows for the time being that he is a believer in the pretensions to which they lay claim. Now this principle, so essential to the grave *épopée*, is completely inverted by *Pulci*, *Ariosto*, and their followers. The invariable rule with them is to introduce the agents of religion in some position either at war with their profession or inconsistent with their dignity, for the purpose of covering them with ridicule. If these authors should happen to be occasionally serious, the reader may be assured that priests and monks, angels and demons, are some thousand miles away. Their presence is invariably the signal that the fun is going to begin. In *Ariosto* the presence of *Discord* is necessary to create disunion in the Pagan ranks, and that of *Silence* to conduct the English contingent of the Christian army stealthily to the enemy's encampments. The archangel Michael is despatched by God to engage these two spirits in this mission, and flies to a monastery with the idea of delivering his instructions to *Silence*, whom he naturally concludes must be an inhabitant of the cloister. To his surprise, however, the monastery is not the retreat of *Silence*, but of *Discord*. The demon having, according to the archangel's instructions, kindled the sparks of animosity in the Pagan camp, flies back to his beloved monastery to be present at the election of an abbot. While the malevolent spirit is blowing the fires of enmity among the monks on this occasion, the Pagans settle their differences and again present a united front to the enemy. God is extremely furious with Michael for having neglected to keep *Discord* in the Pagan camp; whereas the archangel again seeks the monastery in search of the demon, and having found him in the midst of the monks, who, under his influence, are flinging their breviaries at each other, he administers to the demon a few kicks, and drives him back to his charge by breaking a crozier across his head and shoulders.

We are doing the writer an injustice by quoting only such passages; our space, however, forbids us from doing more than give the reader a taste of the writer's quality. On the adverse argument, he says:—

The arguments by which the opposite view has been maintained, besides involving a certain amount of inconsistency, do not singly carry with them much force. *Ginguene*, while classing the *Morgante* and the *Mambriano* among poetry of the burlesque kind, seems to think that the *Orlando Furioso* may pass muster as a serious poem, because it does not exceed the limits of that amount of comic humour which the romantic epic may receive without subverting its gravity. With this concession, *Foscolo* and *Panizzi* very naturally contend that the *Morgante* ought to be included in the same category. The principle which the French critic applies to *Ariosto* the Italian critics apply to *Pulci*. It admits of this easy answer: that if the ludicrous in these compositions did not destroy their serious character, there would remain no mark by which the grave epic could be distinguished from the burlesque, or in other words, the actual representation of an heroic action from its travesty. *Foscolo* cites the case of *Homer* and *Shakspeare*, and *Panizzi*, with the zeal of a disciple, follows him. But if these bards be examined, their jests will never be found out of their proper place. Let it be supposed, however, that *Homer* had represented *Venus* kicking the shins of *Achilles*, the only part where that gentleman was vulnerable; or that *Shakspeare* had dressed the ghost in *Hamlet* in pantaloons, and made him deliver extravagances about the Roman doctrine of purgatory; would either of the Italian critics believe, if such jokes were repeated wherever the supernatural was introduced, that either of the bards in question could have the slightest claim to rank as serious poets merely because in some ordinary scenes they had preserved a grave countenance? It is the invariable rule of *Shakspeare* in his tragedies to put his jests in the mouths of his lowest characters. It is a rule almost as invariable with *Pulci* and *Ariosto* to reserve their whimsicalities for their gravest personages. If such be not the distinguishing feature of the burlesque epic, we ask our opponents to draw the line between the *Pucelle* and the *Henriade*.

These extracts will doubtless send the reader to the *Review* itself for fuller acquaintance with the writer's views. The same *Review* also contains an interesting paper on "Watt and his Inventions," and a powerful bit of polemical writing on "Our New Religion," directed against *Comte*, *Newman*, *Theodore Parker*, &c.

The *London Quarterly Review* keeps to the promise of its early numbers, and is ably written. "The Albigenses" is an interesting historical essay; "The Prisons of the Continent" contains much curious information; "Joseph Addison" is a survey of our classic writer, which, although pleasant to read, was not imperatively called for, the writer having nothing new to communicate. "British Costume, Mediæval and Modern," is a gossipping, eruditè paper on a subject of very general interest. In one passage the writer says:—

There is no part of our costume, either male or female, that has not already passed from one extreme of absurdity to another, and been most admired at its highest point. Coats have been worn with voluminous skirts dangling about the wearer's heels, and with scanty lapels descending six inches below the waist. Coat-sleeves at one time fitted skin-tight; and more than once have been so wide as to sweep the ground. Flapped waistcoats, which, in the time of *George I.*, reached nearly to the stocking, were soon cut so short as to be nearer the arm-pits than the thigh. The close-fitting, tightly-strapped trouser contrasts ludicrously enough with the trunk-hose of the sixteenth century, stuffed out with five or six pounds of bran to such an extent that, as an *Harleian* manuscript tells us, alterations had to be made in the Parliament-House, so as to afford additional accommodation for the Members' seats.

And in a note on this passage we read:—

It is related that a fast man of the time, on rising to conclude a visit of ceremony, had the misfortune to damage his nether integuments by a protruding nail in his chair, so that, by the time he gained the door, the escape of bran was so rapid as to cause a state of complete collapse! It may have been that similar mishaps caused the substitution of wool or hair for bran, which afterwards became common. *Holme*, in his "Notes on Dress," says, "A law was made against such as did stuffe their 'bryches' to make them stand out; whereas, when a certain prisoner (in these tynes) was accused for wearing such breeches contrary to law, he began to excuse himself of the offence, and endeavoured by little and little to discharge himself of that which he did ware within them; he drew out a pair of sheets, two table-cloths, ten napkins, four shirts, a brush, a glasse, a combe, and nightcap, with other things of use, saying, 'Your Lordship may understand that because I have no safer storehouse, these pockets do serve me for a room to lay my goods in; and though it be a strait prison, yet it is a storehouse big enough for them; for I have many things more yet of value within them.' And so his discharge was accepted and well laughed at."

The *Journal of Psychological Medicine* usually contrives to give greater

variety than we have in the present number; but it is never without interesting matter even for those who are not specially interested in questions of insanity. The present number contains an article on "Oinomania; or, the mental Pathology of Intemperance," full of curious facts and illustrations; and a "Visit to the American State School for Idiots," which suggests the strangest reflections.

A new journal has been established, the importance of which is so great that we regret we cannot speak of the first number with the favour we could have wished. It is the *Quarterly Journal of Public Health*. That "National Health is National Wealth," according to the motto of this journal, we profoundly believe; and among the many questions agitating the earnest minds of our day few are of wider scope than that of National Health, and the means of securing it. But the writers in this journal have contented themselves with the excellent idea of their periodical, instead of labouring to execute it adequately. They have apparently undertaken to write without a distinct conception of what the public wanted, and how the public want was to be satisfied. The second number must be a vast improvement on the first, or the undertaking will fall to the ground.

To complete this batch of periodicals, there is the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, in which the *Duc d'Aumale* (under the signature of M. V. DE MARS) follows up his paper on "Les Zouaves," formerly noticed by us, with one on "Les Chasseurs à pied et les nouvelles armes à feu"; but this paper is more interesting to French readers than to English. A posthumous story by *Emile Souvestre* is also published in this number: it is a very feeble performance, which the name of its author alone suffices to lure us through. *John Mill's* "Political Economy" is reviewed at some length by *Louis Reybaud*; and M. *Quatrefages*, the pleasant writer of "Les Souvenirs d'un Naturaliste," contributes a paper—on the metamorphoses which the animal undergoes in the egg—popularly treated, but containing nothing new. On the whole it is not a good number of this very good review.

WHITELOCKE'S SWEDISH EMBASSY.

A Journal of the Swedish Embassy in the Years 1653 and 1654. Impartially written by the Ambassador Bulstrode Whitelocke. First published from the Original Manuscript by Dr. Charles Morton, M.D., F.S.A., Librarian of the British Museum. A new edition, revised by Henry Reeve, Esq., F.S.A., in Two Volumes.

Longmans and Co.

A LITTLE more than two hundred years ago, General Cromwell, not yet Protector, meditated on the policy of an alliance between the Protestant states of Europe. At that time England was engaged in a stiff contest with the Dutch, whose Protestantism was weaker than their love of trade, and jealousy of the growing commerce of the English republic. Denmark, also, was inimical to England, and levied her "Sound dues," of which we hear even in these days, with no small rigour. But Sweden was at least friendly, perhaps more than friendly. The Swedish monarchy had grown great in that wonderful century. Sweden had sent forth her Protestant Paladin, Gustavus, who, warring with the fierce generals of Germany, asserted at once the rights of Protestants, and proved the power of Sweden. At the end of the Thirty Years War, the Sweden of the dead Gustavus was a far different power from the Sweden of the now living Oscar. Nearly the whole of what now constitutes the Baltic coast of Russia, Finland, Estonia, Pomerania, then belonged to the Swedish monarchy. In fact, Sweden was one of the great powers of Europe, until Charles the Twelfth wrecked her strength and glory on the plain of Pultawa. In 1653 Sweden was governed by one of the most notable of queens—Christina, or rather by her Majesty and the great Chancellor Oxenstiern; and this powerful monarchy Cromwell desired to link with the destinies of England, together with all the other Protestant states, as soon as they could be prevailed upon to join the alliance. But Cromwell thought that the perception of the Dutch and the Danes, with regard to their true interests, would be quickened, if he first obtained the alliance of Sweden; and to this end he prevailed on Bulstrode Whitelocke, his first Commissioner in Chancery, to undertake, in the depth of winter, a journey to the court of Christina, for the purpose of negotiating a treaty with the Swedes. And well was it for Europe that England was so nobly ruled by the greatest Commoner she ever had in the guise of a ruler; for by his firmness and strength of mind the Protestant cause, which was then the cause of freedom and progress, of light against darkness, was enabled to stand against the reviving energies of Rome, and the work of Gustavus was continued by Cromwell. The Protestant League so far succeeded that, it at length included Sweden, Denmark, the Swiss Protestant cantons, the Hanse Towns, and some of the Protestant Princes of North Germany; and while Cromwell was doing thus much for right and justice, he was at the same time laying those broad foundations of English commerce throughout the world, and English influence on the continent, which even a second Charles Stuart could not destroy, and which William of Orange and John Churchill subsequently, with great pain and trouble, consolidated.

In these volumes Bulstrode Whitelocke details to us the broad course, the windings and turnings, and the smallest incidents of the negotiations by which Sweden was brought into the Protestant alliance. But he does far more. He sets forth the reason of his going; he describes the voyage by sea to Gothenburg; the journey by land from Gothenburg to Upsal, where the Court then was; he notes down, almost daily, the passing occurrences—who called on Whitelocke, and on whom Whitelocke called, with, in many instances, a record of the conversation that passed between them. He contrives to give you an insight into the characters of those with whom he comes in contact—the fantastic Queen Christina, the wise Chancellor Oxenstiern, the able soldier Montecuoli, the subtle Spaniard Piemontelle, Woolfeldt, a Dane in exile, who had fled with his wife disguised as a page, Oliver Cromwell, and last, not least, Whitelocke lets you pretty deeply into

the secret places in the character of Whitelocke himself. Nor, in presenting unconsciously these evidences of character, does he forget the outward figure of men and their habitations, to pay due attention to the good things of this world, or to chronicle, as it were by instinct, the manners and customs of Swedish life two hundred years ago. It would, perhaps, be difficult to find a book that preserves so complete a picture of a peculiar and interesting period; and which, whether so contrived or not, gives the central place in every scene to the author. Bulstrode is the Johnson of Whitelocke, and Whitelocke is the Johnson of Bulstrode.

It is a common supposition, too readily adopted from the opinion of Whitelocke himself, and no doubt very soothing to his vanity, that the motive which dictated the embassy to Sweden, and the choice of Whitelocke for that service, was a desire to send that personage out of the country in order that Cromwell might the more easily seize the reality of supreme power. But, in the first place, the alliance with Sweden was an essential element in the policy of Cromwell. In the second place, the choice of Whitelocke as ambassador seems to have been honestly made on the ground that he was, as Cromwell expressed it, the "fittest man in the nation for this service." "We know your abilities," continued the great General, "having long conversed with you; we know you have languages, and have travelled, and understand the interest of Christendom; and I have known you in the Army to endure hardships, and to be healthful and strong, and of mettle, discretion, and parts most fit for this employment: you are so, indeed," he added, emphatically; "really no man is so fit for it as you are." Cromwell did not say this once, but several times; and he urged upon Whitelocke, with peculiar persistency, the acceptance of this post. "I make it my earnest request, and I shall hold myself," said he, "particularly obliged to you if you will undertake it, and will stick as close to you as the skin to your flesh." Whitelocke, it is true, would have us believe that he was a lover of a quiet life, not desirous of incurring the risk of such a service in a time when ambassadors from England were killed by the assassins of dethroned royalty, and that he was passionately and incessantly implored to remain by his third wife; he certainly did not with any to much readiness undertake the onerous duty required of him. But since Whitelocke, or another man, must have gone to Sweden, and since the admirable mode in which he conducted the affair justified the choice Cromwell made of Whitelocke for the business, surely it is absurd to take Whitelocke's view of the matter, and assert that the Swedish embassy was only another name for the exile of Whitelocke, and the Swedish alliance no act of policy, but a mere pretext artfully contrived for amusing the so-called envoy, and of no other importance whatsoever. The supposition is unfounded, and the idea it expresses will not fit in with the grave and earnest policy of those times. In the third place, Whitelocke could never have impeded Cromwell with any apprehension; and the great event which happened during Whitelocke's sojourn in Sweden, the assumption of the Protectorate, had long been inevitable, and would surely have occurred even had Whitelocke remained in Bedfordshire, enjoying "the pleasant healthful county air." Mr. Reeve, we are sorry to see, in a foot-note, actually gives his support to the notion that "Cromwell's object in making the appointment was *obviously* to send into honourable exile a man whom he suspected and feared." Let any one look into the career of Whitelocke, able as he was, and say whether he was exactly the Brutus or the Cassius whom the mole Caesar would be likely to fear.

But the value of Whitelocke's Memoir does not, fortunately, depend upon the political information it imparts, useful as that is. Other books give a more accurate insight into the whole question of the foreign relations of England under Cromwell; this book brings us face to face, not with political questions, but with men and women; and its pages abound with personal traits.

At his first interview with Christina, he carefully recounts the number of times which she, the Queen, put off or put on her cap, after the fashion of men, and he, the Ambassador, did the same. He describes her dress and his own, showing himself to be a man of taste and a great respecter of the outside of things. But in his narrative of this interview, the vanity of Whitelocke most naively finds its way out. "The Queen," he says, "was very attentive whilst he spake, and coming up close to him, by her looks and gestures (as was supposed) would have daunted him; but those," adds this solemn coxcomb, editing these papers in his later life, "who have been conversant with the late great affairs in England, are not so soon as often appalled with the presence of a young lady and her servants." And so it fell out that "the young lady," with "the pale, but sprightly countenance," with "much of majesty in her demeanour," and "a noble mien and carriage," though "her person were of the smaller size;" and the comely, grave, dignified ambassador, in his rich plain black suit "set with very fair and diamond buttons," and "a diamond hatband answerable," the whole, as he carefully informs us, "of the value of 1000l.," so it fell out, we say, that this pair soon grew very intimate, none the less soon, certainly, because the ambassador of Cromwell was not daunted by the daughter of Gustavus. It was not long before her Majesty asked the envoy how many wives he had had? "Three," said he. "Have you had children by all of them?" "Yes, by every one of them." "Pardieu," exclaimed the Queen, "elles incorrigible!"

On another occasion we find him warmly remonstrating with her Majesty on the profanation of the "Lord's Day" in her dominions. Not long after Christina made him the confidant of her intended abdication. He remonstrated in homely language, but in vain. The degree of freedom existing between them is shown by the opening passage of this interview. "I shall surprise you with something I intend to communicate," said Christina. "Madam," replied the conceited ambassador, "we that have been versed in the affairs of England do not use to be surprised at the course of a young lady." But he was surprised when she told him of her intended abdication. Later in their intercourse we find them practising pistol shooting; the Queen "learning English" of Whitelocke; hinting a wish as speedily realised as hinted, for his splendid English horses; sending him a message in reply to an inquiry after her health, that "she was sick of no other disease, but that for three whole days he had not been with her."

inviting him to call her his Valentine, and wear his name in her hat; finally attending an English feast on May-day, at Whitelocke's house; and finally that the grave and wily lawyer, then near his fiftieth year, should drows with her at a wedding festival.

It is curious to note how similar things recur in the pages of history. In these volumes we hear of a King of Denmark with a wife by a left-handed marriage; the Sound dues, now so hotly questioned by the Yankee; the ordinance of the arms of Liège; and the central subject is that alliance with Sweden, offensive and defensive, which we are seeking now.

We should do Whitelocke an injustice if we left the reader to suppose that the whole, may that even any considerable part of his time was taken up with the levities of the court. There are here recorded grave discourses on affairs of state, both with the Queen, her Chancellor, and his son, the prince who succeeded Christina, and the foreign ambassadors. There is much that is noble in Whitelocke's conduct, ashore and afloat, in command of a squadron, on his journey, in his own house, and especially in his bearing towards others in all state affairs touching the honour of England. No minister ever upheld with more dignity the honour and greatness of his country. He would have the High Chancellor and all others first call on him; once in court, he coolly pushed the Swedish High Admiral on one side, and took precedence, applauded by the Queen; on a third occasion, he and the Danish ambassador were invited to a ball. It was known that the Dane would insist on taking precedence. Whitelocke made it a point of honour that he should have precedence or he would not go at all. The Dane, who had been invited, was uninvited again. While he was at Upsal, Cromwell made himself Protector, and this led to some questioning of Whitelocke's authority and the stability of the British Government; but bravely and ably the British envoy insisted that in essentials the Government was the same, and would admit of no calling England to account for the form which she chose to give to her constituted authority. It is indeed pleasant to look back upon this time when the foreign policy of England was so enlightened, so open, and so manful, and when the alliance of England was courted by all, even by the haughty monarchies of France and Spain. Cromwell, indeed, made his country respected; and in representing England at the court of the then powerful Swede, no man could have better performed his part than Bulstrode Whitelocke, lawyer, soldier, courtier, and politician, the friend of Soden, and the trusted servant of Cromwell.

HANDBOOK OF PAINTING.

Handbook of Painting. The Italian Schools. Translated from the German of Kugler. By a Lady. Edited, with Notes, by Sir Charles Eastlake, F.R.S., President of the Royal Academy. Third Edition; with more than One Hundred Illustrations. In Two Parts. London 1855: Murray.

The student who wishes to acquire sober and almost always exact information on the history of Italian Art will do well to have this elaborate epitome in his possession. As it at present appears before the public it is the result of the labour of many judicious persons. When some of the appreciations in the text are biased by the peculiar predilections of the German authors they are sure to be corrected or qualified by the careful notes of Sir Charles Eastlake; so that it would be difficult to point out a more complete or more trustworthy manual.

A peculiar opportunity is given to this publication by the recent re-appearance, and it would seem revived popularity, of a work on Italian Art, which, in spite of some agreeable qualities, constitutes a most dangerous companion for young readers on such matters—we allude to the *Poésie Chrétienne* of M. Rio, which we are surprised to see quoted, without proper warning, as an authority, even by professors. The crude theories it contains have long ago been discussed and forgotten elsewhere. M. Rio's object had little relation to the development of artistic ideas. He wrote from a sectarian, or rather Jesuitical, point of view, and in France his work is considered as merely a bulky pamphlet got up in the interest of the church party, and designed to lead, attract, or delude incautious persons back into the fold or prison from which they had strayed. M. Rio had a very fair knowledge of the history of Art in Italy, and a considerable power of elegant appreciation. But he wrote entirely in the spirit of an advocate or a priest; and distorted facts with an audacity rarely equalled, except at the bar, or in ultramontane pulpits. Those who have perused his volume will remember how bitterly he libels poor Filippo Lippi—guilty of two unpardonable sins in the eyes of the Church, namely, refusing to remain a monk, and running away with a nun! He tells this romantic story with tolerable exactness nearly to the end, and then says: "The Pope, in order to palliate the scandal, offered to give him a dispensation to marry Lucrezia, but he did not deign to take advantage of the offer, thinking that between him and her this ceremony was superfluous." M. Rio forgets to inform us that the begot relations of poor Lucrezia Luti poisoned her lover; and what he says of the refusal of Lippi to accept the dispensation is, when we consider the epoch, as evidently against probability as it is against fact. Kugler's *Handbook* (p. 197) gives the true and sensible account of the transaction. Poison did its work too rapidly. The dispensation arrived "too late."

We might multiply instances of passionate misrepresentation equally extraordinary from the work of M. Rio, comparing them with the reserved and well-weighed statements in the volumes under notice. This, however, would be beside our present purpose. But we cannot refrain from pointing out a literary delinquency of a most amusing character, which may be taken as a fair example of M. Rio's manner of dealing with his materials. Although his special favourites among the painters of the fourteenth century were to be found at Siena, he cannot afford to throw over Giotto, whom, nevertheless, innumerable traditions describe as a light-hearted scoff. He defends the frank shepherd, therefore, against the charge of Rumohr, namely, that he gave Art almost a profane direction; and having told us in an astounding parenthesis that Giotto appeared at the period "when modern architecture was throwing off the classical yoke!" he goes on to quote Ghiberti to prove that he changed painting from Greek to Latin, and so forth. He then cautiously approaches dangerous ground, with a firm determination to get over it in

perfect safety. "One of the novels of Sacchetti," he says, "in which Giotto figures as an amusing and joyous personage, very fertile in happy repartees, throws a great light on the personal character of this artist. One day as he was returning with his friends from the festival of San Gallo, he entered with them the church of St. Marc, where, at right, is a picture representing a Holy Family. They asked him why the Virgin was always painted with that melancholy air, a custom which he was well able 'to justify.' All his answers denote a clear and cold intelligence, a penetrating and observing spirit, which is far from disdaining the positive things of life." Our recollections of Sacchetti were very different; yet, as this quotation was made in so circumstantial a manner, we turned to the volume. The truth is, that the friends of Giotto asked him why Joseph always looked so sulky and melancholy—malinconoso; and the answer was, "Non ha agli ragione, che vede prega la moglie, è non sa di cui?" Blaise Pascal never found a Jesuit wilfully tripping in a more comic manner than this.

But in fact, the whole of M. Rio's book, whenever he has a purpose to serve, is written with the same disregard to literary and critical propriety. His object is to prove that there existed a certain succession of painters in Italy, who painted divinely because influenced by the religious spirit. Other speculators have imprudently selected very stiff and repulsive pictures as the finest specimens of Christian Art, and endeavoured to lash up themselves and their readers into admiration; but M. Rio deliberately selects the proudest of Italian painting, and distorts even the best-known facts of history in order to prove his thesis. The use he makes of Savonarola's great attempt at reform in Florence is perfectly unjustifiable. The fiery monk had no intention whatever of introducing a new principle in Art or of advocating an old. The whole tendency of his preaching was to set aside the exercise of the Fine Arts altogether. He was a Catholic Puritan, or rather a direct successor of the Iconoclasts; and if M. Rio had written with pure and straightforward intentions, we should have said that he possessed the faculty of reading without understanding in a greater degree than any man we ever heard of. Is it possible, however, to be familiar with the narratives remaining of the processions of children that marched through Florence in order to destroy the anathema on works of Painting and Sculpture against which the preacher constantly thundered, without perceiving that that strange movement had nothing to do with Art, Christian or otherwise? The tendency of Savonarola was to revert in practice, as Rousseau afterwards reverted in theory, towards what was supposed to have been the primitive state of humanity. Innocent barbarism was set up against corrupt civilisation; and not further to discuss this movement at present, its signification was in no way better expressed than by the fact that nearly all the enthusiastic artists who were disciples or followers of Savonarola deserted their profession altogether, and took to an austere life of meditation.

As we have said, the work before us gives a far more sensible and correct account of the principles and progress of Italian Art. It is entitled, moreover to great praise on account of another special feature, namely, the avoidance of the elaborate divisions and subdivisions into schools, which commonly perplex the reader in similar works. This unlimited subdivision is one of the plagues of Art-history. Lanzi had already felt the evil, but even he yielded far too much to the claims of local vanity. The true principle of division is not to create a new school unless we can point out distinct characteristics. The Florentine School and the Venetian School, had evidently a separate existence, following different principles, and aiming at different ends. The Schools of Lombardy also may be justly set apart. But in most other cases the division has no ground whatever. Artists who were born in one city worked in another, sometimes according to principles which they brought with them, sometimes according to others which they adopted. In the works of several, two or three different manners derived from the study of different classes of masters, or depending on gradual development and increased experience, are discernible. We have not space here to discuss this question in detail; but as an illustration of our meaning, we may ask what appreciable difference it is possible to point out between what are usually called the schools of Parma and Modena? We observe, therefore, with pleasure, that M. Kugler is very sparing in his divisions.

An attractive contribution to this third edition of the *Handbook of Italian Painting* is a more elaborate account of the origin and progress of what may properly be called Christian Art—we mean the art which throughout Europe, from Constantinople to the depths of Gaul and Germany, gradually succeeded the great school of the *beau idéal*. Evidently that was no slight change which substituted for the search after serene and superhuman perfection of form, a sort of sanctification of ordinary humanity deteriorated by physical suffering, but made divine by moral expression. It is curious to trace the gradual progress of the new art from the time when Christ was represented in a conventional manner as a young man of perfect beauty, of soft, supple, elegant, and feminine form, quite beardless, like the Apollo and the Mercury, to that when his traditional portrait—according to which his countenance was long, his cheeks thin, his expression grave and melancholy, his beard forked, his hair separated like a woman's into two tresses, which fell down in loose ringlets upon the shoulders—was substituted. The introduction of this new type constituted a wonderful revolution in Art. Modern Art may then be said to have been born.

It has since only grown and developed. The new principle was gradually applied to all the representations of sacred personages. The Virgin Mary was first figured as a Roman matron, still young, always alone, commonly upright, with her hand on her bosom, and her eyes raised towards heaven; but about the end of the fifth century she began to be painted sitting on a throne with the divine Child in her arms, or on her knees. In like manner the angels first appear as Roman youths with the tunic and toga, and it was not until a comparatively late period that they were represented with wings. If we examine the series of copies published by Arringhi and others of the early types of Christian Art, some of which are reproduced in the work before us, we shall be able to trace exactly the gradual discarding of old forms and costumes, and the adoption of those which, during the long period of stagnation called the Middle Ages, became in their turn as conventional and as immovable as the types of Egyptian sculpture and

painting. The great characteristic of the revival of Art in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries was a return to the study of nature, which was pushed to a greater extent than it had ever been before, and sometimes led to an abuse which it has been agreed to call Naturalism. It was a reaction against this tendency in Art, commenced in modern times by the great Savoyard de Maistre, with purely ecclesiastical views that culminated at length in the work of M. Rio, of which we have spoken. The same ideas, somewhat modified, have recently been maintained in England; but we shall not at present attempt to follow their eccentric development. The discussions which they naturally give rise to amongst young students are not without their utility. We strongly recommend, however, all those who engage in them to consult frequently Kugler's admirable Handbook, in which they will find the claims to attention of all the rival schools, from the mystical to the naturalistic, fairly dealt with in a manner which evinces a large and hearty appreciation of Art in general. We may add that the numerous woodcuts, by Mr. George Scharf, by which the work is illustrated, are elegantly executed, and not only assist the reader to understand the text, but are in themselves intrinsically interesting. We refer especially to the series of Raphael's Madonnas and Holy Families, which Sir Charles Eastlake, in his able preface, very justly selects for a special notice.

NORTH AND SOUTH.

North and South. By the Author of "Mary Barton."

Chapman and Hall.

North and South is an exceedingly good novel of life in—the Midland Counties. By this paradox we mean to say that the book under notice is a good novel in all the generalities that make a novel good, wherever the scene may be laid; but, as relates to anything special to either the North or the South, or to those two Districts in contrast, it is not so successful: is, not to mince matters, a failure. As this tale appeared originally in *Household Words*, of course the story and characters are too well known to need our doing anything here but the purely critical. Presuming so much, therefore, we affirm that the Hales, father, mother, and daughter; the Lennoxes, Mr. Bell, and all that here represent the South, represent simply the well-bred, unmercantile middle-classes of England, and not any class peculiar to any district or county. While on the other hand the Thorntons, the Higginses and others, as well as the incidents laid in Milton, are no fair picture of the cotton realms of which Manchester is the metropolis. That such characters may exist there as exceptional varieties we cannot deny, of course, but they are not types, nor even generalities: and obviously enough, if you are to put exceptional North against uncharacteristic South, you might as well call a book "Christ and Vishnu," and proceed to discuss the mythology of Central Africa.

Lancashire and the Cotton Trade seems to be the *pons asinorum* of novelists—with this exception, that *none* get over it. Mrs. Trollope's *Michael Armstrong* was a gross, dauby libel; *Disraeli's Sybil* was a sketch of the trade from a Caucasian point of view; Miss Jewsbury, a Manchester lady, only saved *Marian Withers* from being a failure by ceasing to make it a Lancashire tale; and here we have Mrs. Gaskell, if not a Manchester lady, a settler therein, failing distinctly, not in the tale, for *North and South* is a successful and a good novel, but in an attempt to dramatise spinning and weaving, and throw a light on the vexed questions of corn and cotton, of masters and men. Such failures we hold to be inevitable. A novel must have the same essential dramatic characteristics, the same principles of incident, lay the scene where you will; if you lay the scene in Lancashire, and are true to its men and present arrangements, you cannot have those essential requirements; if you idealise your men and melo-dramatise your incidents, you are false to Lancashire, and might as well have laid the scene in Timbuctoo. A new-dubbed hedge is not more level than is Lancashire cotton life. Your grand ideal manufacturer, with we know not how much sunk in business, who keeps an acute eye on all the markets of the world, ready to change his productions to meet any demand, and who makes some awful venture to a distant port, and waits returns with furrowing brow and grizziling hair, till, adverse winds keeping argosies out of port, half a day stands between him and ruin, when suddenly the gale shifts, and blows in a colossal fortune and general *dénouement* of prosperity, is as utterly false as it would be to describe such a man selling yarn on the Manchester Exchange in doublet and trunk-hose. The division of labour is too well understood in Lancashire. The merchant and the manufacturer are quite separate beings. Six months' study will teach you spinning, six days, manufacturing; three pounds a week will buy a first-class manager for a spinning, and thirty shillings the same for a weaving, mill. Men who can neither read nor write, and with capacities little removed above that of the swine, make fortunes in the trade: men with education and ideas are not more successful, rather less. For one-and-twenty years the history of the Cotton Trade has been one of septennial crises. A demand arises, a crisis being past, and for three years or more, anybody who can manage to spin or weave has only to spin or weave and sell the product at the market price, settled by competition to a fraction, to make money; the demand slackens, and be he the wisest or the stupidest of men, his profits grow smaller, change into a loss, a fresh crisis reigns, until the corner is turned, and money-making recommences. On the other hand, the workpeople placidly spin and weave, placidly receive their wages, and very implacidly at wakes and fairs and dog-fights spend them, every now and then, and always at the wrong time, flying into open mutiny for more wages. While, as regards the question of masters and men and strikes, the masters, making of money being their highest ideal, always endeavour to make as much as they can by keeping the operative's wages as low as they can; while the operative, spending as he gets, is always ready to use his real or fancied power to get more without any reference as to whether the Masters can afford more at the time in question. Now, as regards painting characters and subduing them into a dramatic story, the material is not here; and as to assisting to solve vexed questions of capital and labour by a fiction, why take two round-about volumes to say what we can say in thirty words? There can be no solution of this question till both master

and man have learned that neither money, nor things purchasable by money, are the highest ends of man's being here.

We therefore are of opinion on general grounds, deduced by abstract reasoning, that the Cotton Trade presents ample field for the philanthropist, the practical reformer, the political economist, and the general writer, that it affords no proper material for the veracious delineator of human life in a harmonious, interesting whole; in a word, for the writer of fiction. And here, in *North and South*, we have an instance of the truth of our theory. The book is interesting, but how? By Thornton being made an untrue picture of a Lancashire millowner, by Higgins and the hands being made embodiments of Mrs. Gaskell's ideas of the workpeople's feelings, but not of their real feelings. Independent of this, so much of the book as relates to Lancashire is full of errors which it is inconceivable for a resident in Manchester to have made, and which none but a lady could have so made. Thornton is described as a very extensive spinner and manufacturer—trading to all parts of the globe, and known all over the kingdom, and he rents his mill on a lease. We will engage to say there are not two large concerns in Lancashire that *rent* their mills: except in small concerns, to own them being the invariable rule. Error number one. Thornton, again, is a merchant shipping to all quarters of the globe: this again is extremely exceptional. There are not ten concerns that so ship as a rule, and these ten are owned by millionaires who deal in all manner of produce in the countries to which they ship. Only in times of great depression do manufacturers export on their own account, and this is the time when Thornton ceases shipping. Error number two. Again, Thornton has bills drawn on him for his cotton—cash payments in ten days being the immutable and never invaded rule of Liverpool; a fact that needy men wishing to spin know to their cost. Error number three. Again, accounting for the necessity to keep wages lower, Thornton says, "The Americans are getting their yarn so into the general market, that our only chance is to beat them by producing at a lower rate." We have heard all manner of reasons assigned for bad trade, but this is the first time any man, woman, or child found this out. American competition is altogether a bagatelle, and in yarn it is less than nothing. They cannot even supply themselves, with high protective duties. Error number four. Again, Thornton stocks heavily, and that after the strike. To stock at all is so much at variance with the custom of Lancashire manufacturer, as coupled with the fact of that stocking following on the strike, to make this Error number five. Again, when Thornton is in difficulties, Higgins stops to work after the mill has closed. To do this the engines must have run for the generous Higgins's two looms, in which case, for every twopence his generosity gave Thornton, that gentleman would lose five pounds. Error number six. Again, Thornton gets into his difficulties partly by his stocks falling *one-half*. From October, 1853, to December, 1854, occurred the greatest fall on record in the history of the cotton trade, and yet stocks never fell *one-half*, nor *one-quarter*. Error number seven. Lastly, to crown all, comes the closing absurdity in two senses, in a trade sense and a literary sense. This great millowner, this extensive merchant, this man rich enough to stock heavily, when he has made a severe loss and his stocks have fallen *one-half*, can be set on his legs by what?—by 1875! Why, as many thousands would hardly have done it. This is the trade absurdity. But this Thornton, who is in desperate love with Margaret Hale, and is firmly convinced that she dislikes him, when she in his difficulties—he in hers having been a sound friend—offers, out of her forty thousand pounds, to *lend* him this 1875!, is so staggered with the munificence, that he construes it at once into a declaration of her love for him. This is the other absurdity.

If our objections seem too technical, we have to allege in excuse that we take so deep an interest in the questions that agitate Lancashire and its trade arrangements; are so convinced that nothing but sound, strong, masculine, practical insight can aid their solution; are so sure that in this, above all other social complications, sentimental yearnings and feverish idealisations only complicate matters; are so certain that if there are two classes that should give trade and masters-and-men questions a wide berth, those classes are clergymen and women; that we have taken especial pains to show, and it could only be shown by such technicalities, that our authoress knows too little of the Cotton Trade to be entitled to increase the confusion by writing about it.

Apart from these things, we can heartily praise *North and South*. The tale is deeply interesting. And it has all that purity of style and true appreciation of character and skill in its delineation for which Mrs. Gaskell has hardly a rival among our lady novelists.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

The Crimea: With a Visit to Odessa. By Charles W. Koch. G. Routledge and Co.

The World and its Beautiful Lights and Sympathies. By James Weymouth.

James Blackwood.

The Simple Truth: A Tract for Young Men.

Bull, Hinton and Co.

The Vicar of Wakefield. By Oliver Goldsmith. (With thirty-two Illustrations, by

John Van Voot.

Westward Ho! or, the Voyages and Adventures of Sir Amyas Leigh, Knight of Burrough, in the County of Devon, in the Reign of her most Glorious Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

Rendered into Modern English. By Charles Kingsley. 3 vols.

Macmillan and Co.

Ireland's Recovery; or Excessive Emigration and its Reparative Agencies in Ireland. An Essay, with Appendix. By John Locke, A.B. John W. Parker and Son.

Thomas Alman and Son.

Natural Philosophy. First Treatise. Mechanics, including the Laws of Matter and Motion, and Pyromechanics, or the Laws of Heat, with Questions for Examination.

Thomas Alman and Son.

By Richard Green Parker, A.M. (Parker's Education Course, New Edition.)

Thomas Alman and Son.

The Works of Virgil, closely rendered into English Rhythm, and Illustrated from British Poets of the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. By the Rev. Robert Corbet Singleton, M.A. (Vol I.)

Bell and Daldy.

The Coming of the Kingdom, a Series of Tracts. By James Douglas of Cavers. No. I. Prayer and the War.

Thomas Constable and Co.

The Serf and the Cossack: a Sketch of the Condition of the Russian People. By Francis Marx.

Trübner and Co.

Our Heroes of the Crimea: being Biographical Sketches of our Military Officers, from the General Commander-in-Chief to the Subaltern. By George Ryan. (The Tenth Thousand.) George Routledge and Co.

Learning and Working: Six Lectures delivered in Willis's Rooms, London, in June and July 1854. The Religion of Rome, and its Influence on Modern Civilization: Four Lectures delivered in the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh, in December, 1854. By Frederick Denison Maurice, M.A.

The Surf-Sisters: or, the Russia of to-day. By John Harwood. Macmillan and Co.

Pictures of Town from my Mental Camera. By Werdna Retnyw, M.D. George Routledge and Co.

Poems. By Melanter. Robert Hardwicke. *General Education—Speech delivered by the Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, Bart., M.P., in the House of Commons, on Friday, March 16th 1855, on Moving for Leave to introduce a Bill for the Better Promotion of National Education.*

Thomas Hatchard. *Speech of Major-General, the Earl of Lucan, delivered in the House of Lords, on March 19th 1855, on his Recall from his Command in the Crimea.* Thomas Hatchard.

The Arts.

THE AMATEUR PANTOMIME.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

Sir,—Be kind enough to allow me, through your columns, to give up an honour which I am not fairly entitled to—the authorship of the opening of the Olympic Amateur Pantomime.

The original burlesque scene of *Guy Fawkes* was written by Mr. Edmund Draper for "The Man in the Moon"—a little periodical which I edited in 1848, conjointly with my poor friend Mr. Angus Reach. I have done little more, with my collaborateur Mr. Hale, than remodel it, according to our exigencies, and put in the songs and "business," and such local or personal allusions as were considered adapted to the audience.

Yours obediently,

ALBERT SMITH.

The Fielding Club, April 11, 1855.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The Opera has begun this season where it left off last August, with ROSSINI's lively and melodious *Comte Ory*, and a more agreeable and auspicious opening could not be desired. The only change in the cast is the substitution of GARDONI for LUCHEZI, in every respect a welcome change. LUCHEZI's voice is, perhaps, more flexible, and his method more Rossinian than GARDONI's, but LUCHEZI's qualities belong to the past, and we are not content with reminiscences. GARDONI's voice is ready, but sympathetic; he is graceful and prepossessing, and he has never acted and sung with more intelligence and animation than on the present occasion. Mademoiselle BOSIO, whose extraordinary advance in her art has been a favourite topic of conversation lately in musical circles though cold and inanimate as a *Venus à la neige*, vocalises more brilliantly, and with a more exquisitely effortless impassiveness than ever. There is a rare pleasure in the *confidence* such a singer as Madlle. BOSIO inspires; her voice seems to well up spontaneously into a fountain of crystal clearness, and inexhaustible flow. As an actress she seems to have everything to learn, except

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

CROSS—April 8, at Ladbrooke-place, Notting-hill, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Cross, late Madras Army: a son.

JERVIS—April 5, at Withington Hall, Cheshire, the wife of the Hon. Carnegie H. J. Jervis: a son.

PEARSON—April 8, in Chester-terrace, Regent's-park, the Hon. Lady Pearson: a daughter.

PURSELL—April 5, at 3, Carlton House-terrace, the Hon. Mr. Russell: a son.

MARRIAGES.

COLES—LEGGE—April 12, at Bramdean Church, Hants, Major-General William Cooper Coles, to Honora Augusta, daughter of the Hon. and Rev. Augustus George Legge.

IRVING—BRUYERES—April 11, at Southampton, Martin How, son of the late Rev. Edward Irving, M.A., to Caroline Mary, daughter of Henry Pringle Bruyeres, Esq.

DEATHS.

COTTON—April 5, at Madingley, near Cambridge, Phil Adelphi, widow of Admiral Sir Charles Cotton, Bart., and daughter of the late Admiral Sir Joshua Rowley, Bart., died, ninety-two.

LISTER—April 9, at Exeter, the Lady Lisle, of Kenton, Devon.

VICARS—March 22, in the trenches before Sebastopol, Hedley Shattoe Vicars, Captain ninety-seventh Regiment, eldest son of the late Captain Vicars, Royal Engineers, aged twenty-eight.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, April 10.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—WILLIAM BICKLEY, Stock-upon-Trent, draper.

BANKRUPT.—GEORGE CHRISTMAS LONG, Darford, draper—JOHN DAWSON, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, cattle salesman—WILLIAM ATTACK, Canning Town, Plaistow, Essex, engineer—JOHN ROLLASON and JACOB STANLEY LISTER, Moxley Ironworks near Bilton, Staffordshire, iron masters—MATTHEW RICHMOND STEELE, Leicester, hatter—JAMES MINERS, Redruth, Cornwall, grocer—JOSEPH LAISTER, Sheffield, butcher—GEORGE MILNES, Sheffield, brickmaker—JEREMIAH NEW, Sheffield, saw manufacturer—GEORGE WILLIAMSON, Rochdale Lancashire, cotton cloth manufacturer—GEORGE RICH, Leigh, Lancashire, joiner—SYLVESTER LEWIS SAMUEL, Liverpool, watch manufacturer.

BROTH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. MC CALL, Glasgow, merchant—C. MURRAY, Fossaway, Pethshire, farmer.

Friday, April 13.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—JOSEPH GIBB, Blue

Iron-yard, Gray's-inn-road, livery stable keeper—CHARLES KING WITT, New Sarum, Wiltshire, grocer—ROBERT NICHOLSON, Kingston-upon-Hull, sail maker.

BANKRUPT.—CHARLES KING WITT, New Sarum, Wiltshire, grocer—WILLIAM MEAD, Milk-street, Cheapside, commission agent—PAUL SAMSON, Hythe, Kent, boot and shoe maker—LOUIS LIPMAN, Charles-street, Northampton-

the conventional graces of stage deportment. At present she does literally nothing, in the most ladylike and elegant manner imaginable. The secondary parts in the opera were fairly filled, but it struck us that the singers were hardly equal to the volubility of the music in the comic passages. The genuine Italian opera buffa, of which the *Comte Ory* is a delightful example, requires a special style of vocalisation, to the acquisition of which the best singing practice in the compositions of the modern Italian school offers no facilities whatever. *Fidelio* is to be produced on the occasion of the state visit next Thursday, with the new German prima donna, Madlle. JENNY NEY, as *Leonora*; but we are not sorry to be reminded by the *Comte Ory* that *Italian* opera is something more than a name.

A Paris Correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* informs us that CERITO is engaged at Covent Garden this season as a singer. One must go abroad to learn what is going on at home!

THE EASTER PIECES.

We announced, last week, the entertainments which the Theatres had prepared for the holiday people; and we have now to report the success of all the new fairy stories, extravaganzas, and burlesques in every direction. The piece at the HAYMARKET is of the kind which the French call *Revue*. All the great theatrical successes of the past season are represented in it. It is written by the ever-ready and ingenious Mr. PLANCHE, and the principal comic part is acted by the irresistible Mr. BUCKSTONE. What greater recommendations than these can be advanced in its favour? The ADELPHI gives no less than five fairy stories all neatly compressed within the compass of one extravaganza. Miss WOOLGAR has some extraordinary transformations of costume and changes of character—Mr. JAMES BLAND does wonders as a flinty-hearted father—and the ladies (and children) of the ballet exhibit some excellent dancing. The piece is very carefully and brilliantly put upon the stage. The public of the PRINCESS'S lose nothing in losing the music of the *Muletier de Toledo*. Speaking from experience of the opera at Paris, we should say that the "libretto" was decidedly the best part of it. M. ADOLPHE ADAM (the composer of the *Muletier de Toledo*, as given at the THEATRE HISTORIQUE) has exhausted his musical vein. He can only write conventionalities now of the mock-brilliant kind, which the French—the most conservative and sober people in the world in matters of Art—patiently endure out of grateful remembrance of the composer of *Le Postillon*. The comic drama of the *Muletier*, as given at the PRINCESS'S, is neatly and elegantly put on the stage, and fairly acted—Mr. HARLEY, as a sycophantic courtier, being, of course, as amusing as ever. SADLER'S WELLS rejoices in the LYCEUM company, without CHARLES MATHEWS! Mr. WRIGHT, who does nothing but move about now, is making the transpontine public laugh at the SURRY THEATRE. The STRAND has obtained a discreditable success by a burlesque of *King Lear*. The author who could parody, the players who could act, and the audience which could applaud, are all worthy of each other. Think of the mental condition of the human beings, before and behind the curtain, at the STRAND THEATRE; and then remember that we still persist in sending missionaries to foreign parts!

MR. GEORGE BUCKLAND'S PATRIOTIC SONGS.—The directors of the Polytechnic Institution have judiciously added to the attractiveness of their establishment in the eyes of holiday folks, by engaging the services of Mr. George Buckland to deliver a musical lecture upon "Old English and Patriotic Songs," with vocal illustrations. This gentleman is gifted with that fresh, manly voice which gives life to a patriotic song; and in such songs as "The Old English Gentleman," and "Stand to your Guns," he is pleasing, dramatic, and impressive.

Graan, 4, 4; Linares, 7, 7½ x. d.; Pontigibaud, 14, 15; South Australian (copper), 1, 1; Australasian Bank, 80, 82; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 1, 1 p.m.; Oriental Bank, 23, 33; Union of Australia, 66, 68; Australian Agricultural, 23, 29; Canada Government Six per Cent. Bonds, 108, 109; Crystal Palace, 33, 34; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 15, 16; North British Australasian Land and Loan, 4, 1; Scottish Australian, Investment, 11, 1½; South Australian Land, 37, 38.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, April 13, 1855.

THE supply of Wheat since Monday is very moderate, but the trade remains in precisely the same dull state as we last reported. The demand is of the most retail character, and confined entirely to the supply of the most pressing wants. Holders, however, do not press sales, and the business done is at former rates. The supply of Barley is small, but there is rather less demand for distillation, and we cannot therefore report any improvement in value. The arrivals of Oats are only moderate, and there is no alteration in the value of any description since Monday.

A few cargoes of Egyptian Wheat have been sold, arrived on passage, at 42s. for Beira, and 48s. to Saidi. A cargo of Saidi Beans, near at hand, has been sold at 31s., and another of inferior quality at 28s. 6d., cost, freight and insurance.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	.....	.....	212	214	212	211
3 per Cent. Red.....	.....	.....	91½	91½	90	90
4 per Cent. Con. An.	92½	92½	92	92½	91½	91½
Consorts for Account.....	92½	92½	92½	92	92	91½
3½ per Cent. An. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cent. ....	.....	.....	77	.....	.....	.....
New 2½ per Cent.	34	.....	4	3½	3½	4
Long Ans. 1860.....	34	.....	4	3½	3½	4
India Stock.....	229	.....	230	.....	230	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	14	.....	15	14	14	11
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	9	9	10	10	7	10
Ditto, £300.....	9	7	10	10	10	10
Ditto, Small.....	7	7	7	10	10	10

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.

Brazilian Bonds.....	90	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents., 1822.....	90
Buenos Ayres 6 per Cents.	54	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	89
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	102	Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def. 182	102
Danish 5 per Cents.....	...	Spanish Committee Crti.	...
Ecuador Bonds.....	...	...	...
Mexican 3 per Cts. for Coup. not fun.....	21	Venezuela 34 per Cents.....	53
Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc. April 16.....	9	Belgian 4½ per Cents.....	...
Portuguese 4 per Cents.....	...	Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	62
Portuguese 3 p. Cents.	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif. 91½	...

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No. CCXL APRIL, 1855. 8vo, price 6s. [On Tuesday next.]

Contents.

- I. SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES.
- II. SIBERIA.
- III. ENGLISH SURNAMES.
- IV. THE CORRECTION OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS.
- V. HUC'S TRAVELS IN CHINA.
- VI. PASCAL PAOLI.
- VII. THE CHEMISTRY OF COMMON LIFE.
- VIII. AUTOCRACY OF THE CZARS.
- IX. LORD BROUGHAM ON CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.
- X. ARMY REFORM.

Announcements.

2. MEMOIR of the Rev. SYDNEY SMITH. By his Daughter, LADY HOLLAND. With a Selection from his Letters, edited by Mrs. AUSTIN. 2 vols. 8vo. [In May.]

3. CLEVE HALL. By the Author of "Amy Herbert," "The Experience of Life," &c. 2 vols. 8vo. [Early in May.]

4. The CRIMEA; Its ANCIENT and MODERN HISTORY; the Khans, the Sultans, and the Czars: With Sketches of the Scenery and People. By the Rev. T. MILNER, M.A. Post 8vo. [In May.]

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